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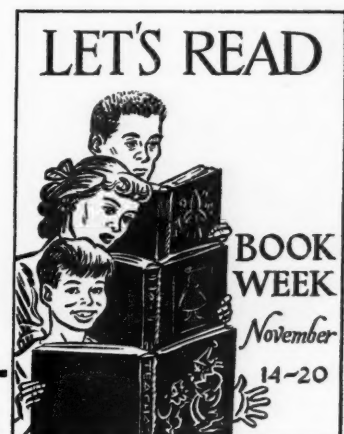
America

November 20, 1954

Vol. 92, Number 8

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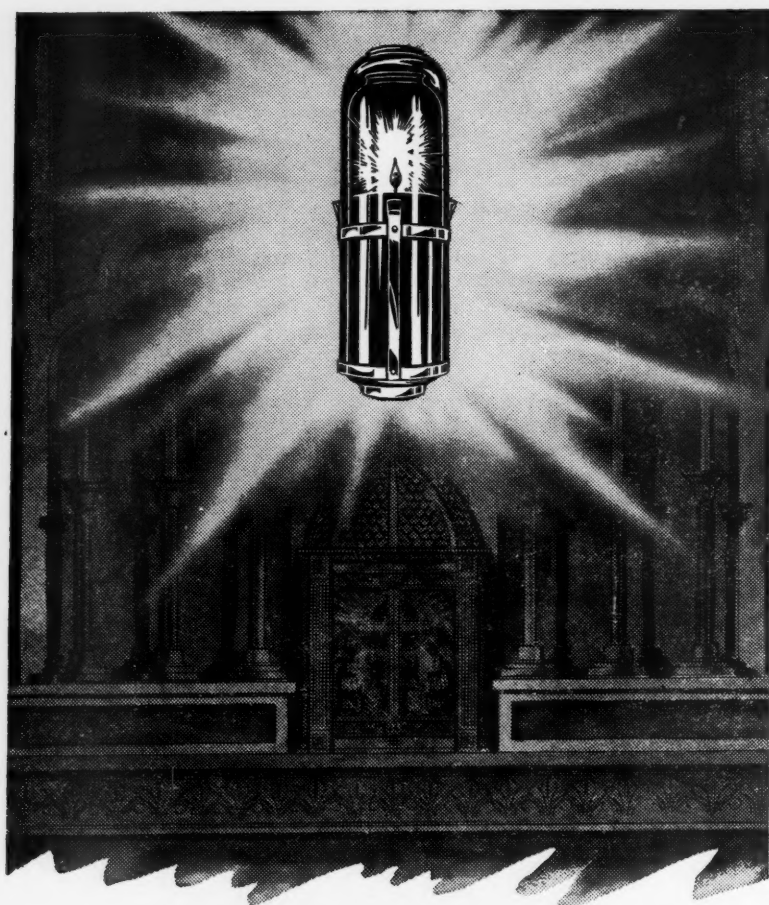
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The President at Boston

In President Eisenhower's moving address at Boston on Nov. 8 to the annual convention of the National Council of Catholic Women, it is hard to know which to admire more: his beautiful tribute to family life and the place which mothers have in it; or his eloquent, heart-warming plea for world peace. Reading his words, noting their obvious sincerity, one can only marvel again at the blindness of those neutralists, in Asia and Europe, who are so quick to grasp at every straw in the Soviet Union's windy peace propaganda, but so slow to credit the peaceful intentions of the United States. Our wonderment grows as we observe that the President spoke at Boston only a few hours after Soviet planes had brutally shot down an American B-29 photo-reconnaissance plane "over Japanese territory in the Hokkaido area." That was the fifteenth Soviet attack on peaceful U. S. aircraft since the war, and the ninth time an American plane has been shot down. These barbaric, warlike gestures by the peace-mongers in Moscow have now cost 51 American lives. We wish we could more fully share Mr. Eisenhower's optimistic belief, expressed at Boston, that "the possibility of permanent peace is more promising than in recent years." It is not only the blatant discrepancy between Soviet words and deeds, as revealed most recently in the Hokkaido tragedy, which makes us skeptical. It is even more the very nature of the Communist abomination, which constantly varies its tactics—breathing fire one day, cooing softly the next—but never its goal. That goal remains our destruction, and the destruction of the entire free world.

Catholic way in social work

It takes a lot of practical knowledge and a generous dose of human prudence to put abstract principles of social philosophy to work in the complex modern world. Speakers at the 40th annual convention of the National Conference of Catholic Charities, which met last week in Washington, made that quite clear. The sheer size and volume of welfare problems in our highly industrialized and interdependent society make a haphazard approach to charity unthinkable. At the same time, vast organizations and proliferating bureaus, meant to streamline the work of helping those in need, may reduce individual men, women and children to case numbers in a back-office file. Most Rev. Patrick A. O'Boyle, Archbishop of Washington, noted just such "excessive professionalism" as a real danger to the "Catholic way of doing things." The archbishop admitted that welfare programs could not get along without bureaus and organizational structures. But the results are tragic "when such organizations become so superorganized, so bureaucratic as to remove themselves from the individual and to take on a certain aloof paternalism in their philosophy and operation." A relentless efficiency, a cool card-index approach in much of today's welfare work, clearly justifies the archbishop's warning that

CURRENT COMMENT

we may lose the personal element characteristic of Catholic charity in the days of the early Church and down through the Middle Ages. The only effective answer to the problem lies, not in doing away with the bureaus, but in humanizing and, where possible, supplementing their work. That calls for a Christ-like charity and a deep sense of vocation in our Catholic social workers.

John Davies dismissed

Secretary Dulles' statement of Nov. 5 explaining why he had dismissed John Paton Davies Jr. from our Foreign Service leaves little room for enlightening comment. The statement describes the apparently very fair procedures employed in the ninth and final scrutiny of Mr. Davies' fitness. It reports the unanimous conclusions reached by the five-member security board, drawn from agencies outside the State Department, as a result of its hearings from late June through mid-July. The board decided, according to Mr. Dulles, that on the basis of Executive Order 10450 of May 27, 1953, "the continued employment of Mr. Davies is not clearly consistent with the interests of the national security." In the opinion of the board, Mr. Davies is said to have "demonstrated a lack of judgment, discretion and reliability" and to have "made known [apparently to the American press at Chungking in 1944, for example] his dissents from established policy outside of privileged boundaries." He was guilty of "disregard of proper forbearance and caution in making known his dissents" from "existing policy" toward China. Mr. Davies is not found "disloyal" either by the board or the Secretary of State, "in the sense of having any communistic affinity or abetting any alien elements hostile to the United States . . ." Having independently examined the record, Mr. Dulles found himself in agreement. He also accepted the board's verdict that Mr. Davies' "personal demeanor" as a witness "did not inspire confidence in his reliability and that he was frequently less than forthright . . ."

. . . unanimity commands respect

Under the circumstances, about all anyone can do is what Mr. Davies himself did on Nov. 5: accept the unanimous findings of the board and the decision of the Secretary of State as final. Three days earlier, Mr. Davies had written a long letter to Gen. Daniel Noce,

chairman of the security board, dealing with such "unclassified portions" of the transcript of the hearings as had been sent to him by the Security Board of the Department of State. He contended that the stenographic report contained "certain ambiguities." For example, he found a lack of coherence in the parts concerned with "United States policy towards China," which he had been accused of circumventing. It was not always clear what official standing was enjoyed by the various definitions of U. S. policy cited at different junctures in the hearings. The Davies letter will certainly be studied by all those professionally interested in the extent to which a Foreign Service officer is justified in making known his independent analyses of political situations abroad. In the absence of the text of the hearings, however, one cannot evaluate Mr. Davies' self-defense. He has accepted the termination of his 23-year diplomatic career with good grace, even though it came four years before he could have retired on pension. For the 46-year-old father of four children, this is a personal tragedy. One must assume, at the same time, that the five members of the security board and our Secretary of State exercised honest and competent judgment. Apart from those who have information denied to the public, it seems that, on the evidence at hand, only extremists will feel obliged to quarrel with the verdict.

Nigerians in San Francisco

Good news is a welcome sequel to bad news. AMERICA's November 6 issue (p. 41) reported the disconcerting remarks of a veteran missionary in Nigeria, Rev. Denis J. Slattery, S.M.A., to the effect that almost 75 per cent of African Catholic students in the United States lose their faith, largely owing to the neglect of American Catholics. Father Slattery's words moved Jim Kelly, staff writer for the *San Francisco Monitor*, to recall that the University of San Francisco (Jesuit) has had five African students in recent years, all from Nigeria, and that three of them are well-known to local sports fans for their soccer exploits. Conversation with one of the Nigerians doing graduate work at USF evidenced to Mr. Kelly that USF students "have only one racial policy—the 'warm shoulder' policy." Four of the Uni-

versity's Nigerians were non-Catholics. On their departure, all four said they were so warmed by their reception at a Catholic school that they were definitely interested in learning more about the faith. Said graduate chemistry student Nwaeze Anyanwu: "The quickest way to get rid of hostility between races is for people to know each other better as persons. God didn't make humans to live as strangers." This bit of cheer prompts a suggestion on our part. Can't we hear from other American Catholic schools where Africans are studying: how many are enrolled, and how are they making out? A few more reports like that from USF will encourage other schools to do likewise.

Cardinal Stritch to teen-agers

Youthful rioters may spark national headlines, but more significant news was made by some 1,100 delegates from 85 Chicago archdiocesan high schools who pledged themselves recently, at the call of His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, to "extend their arms in justice and charity to all men." The occasion was the third interracial study day sponsored by the Catholic Interracial Council of Chicago, which took place Nov. 2 at Alvernia High School. The Cardinal appealed directly to the conscience and idealism of these young people. "If we are all one in Christ," he said, "then our attitudes toward those not of our color, lineage or blood will be Christ-like." His remarks were related to certain acute and highly publicized neighborhood racial clashes in the Chicago area. "The mystical body of Christ," he declared, "is being torn limb from limb in many neighborhoods populated by Catholics who practice social injustice." And he reminded his young people that hard work lies ahead. "Eradicating these prejudices," he conceded, "is the most difficult work in life and it commands the enthusiasm of youth." "Our youth are not a lost generation," he added, "but in my opinion are the most serious generation of young people we have had." These words spring from a lifetime of careful reflection and fatherly solicitude. The National Federation of Catholic College Students, through its National Interracial Justice Commission, has shown during the last few years what college men and women can do to spread a Christian racial attitude. The words of Cardinal Stritch are a challenge to high-school youth as well.

Russia girds herself with science

The *New York Times* for Nov. 7 gave us a lengthy rundown of facts and figures on the race between Russia and the free world for leadership in the fields of science and technology. While the Soviet Union is busy training young scientists and engineers, the U. S. dawdles along—many of its educators not even aware of the Soviet spurt. Last June our colleges graduated only 20,000 engineers, while those of the Soviet Union turned out 54,000. Moreover, China is graduating 5,000 scientists a year. At present there are approxi-

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mately 500,000 American engineers and 200,000 other scientists. Russia's engineers now number 400,000, her scientists 150,000. Benjamin Fine warns in the *Times* article:

... with the present tremendous rate of training in the technical schools and colleges of the Soviet Union it will be but a matter of several years at most before we are reached, if not outstripped, in the total supply of technically trained personnel.

This study raises massive problems for American educators. Must we scrap liberal arts and coerce more and more students into science and engineering? Are our primary and secondary schools doing all they should to prepare our talented youth for the intellectual and spiritual rigors of a scientific career? (See "Drama in the laboratory," *Am.* 5/1, pp. 129-131.) Catholic colleges have apparently not produced their quota of trained scientists. What are the reasons for this? Students in Soviet technical schools are exempted from military service until after graduation, and then serve in posts where their specialties are needed. Are we similarly solicitous about our army-bound graduates? The list might easily be expanded, but this sample is sufficient to indicate the dimensions of the problem.

Public school question in the balance

It is becoming increasingly difficult to find out what is right and what is wrong with U. S. public schools. Extremists on both sides are having at each other with unprecedented fury, and it takes a search to find a level and moderate view of the problem of public education. One such temperate voice is that of the erudite editor of *School and Society*, William W. Brickman, whose article, "Critical Analyses of American Education," in the Oct. 30 issue, deserves wide attention. Editor Brickman is no special pleader for either side in the current controversy. He writes:

It is necessary to examine all statements of dissatisfaction, as well as those of defense, in the light of logic, faithfulness to fact and other objective considerations. The attitude of bellicosity which has all too often greeted those within the profession who have ventured to call attention to weaknesses in the fabric or function of the schools must give way to a greater degree of receptivity to dissenting ideas.

American education at this critical juncture in its history has nothing to gain, says Mr. Brickman, from policies which frown on differences of opinion. "Controversial sentiment" should not be discouraged. He finds it vexing that educationists themselves, who are openly committed to the teaching of independent thinking, should be hostile to the expression of ideas which contrast with their own. A good object lesson in this policy of moderation is Prof. W. H. Cartwright's "The University's Stake in Problems of School Administrators" in this same issue of *School and Society*. This well-edited journal deserves a wider readership.

ATOMIC POOL FOR PEACE ADVANCES

Though international control of atomic energy as a disarmament aid continues to face almost insuperable obstacles, the chances for a cooperative program in non-military matters seem rather good at this moment. The "atomic powers" of the free world have gone ahead on their own, despite the refusal of the Soviet Union to accept the ideas for an atomic pool for peaceful purposes, proposed by President Eisenhower in his Dec. 8, 1953 address to the UN General Assembly. Negotiations are already well-advanced for an "International Atomic Energy Agency" whose purpose would be to facilitate the use by the entire world of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. Discussions are taking place among the United States, Great Britain, Belgium, Canada, France, South Africa and Portugal. All these countries have already recorded achievements in the domain of atomic energy.

In anticipation of the early start of the new agency the above-named states (minus Portugal, which does not belong to the United Nations) have presented a joint proposal in the current General Assembly for an international conference on atomic energy to take place not later than August, 1955. This conference, which would be under UN auspices, would explore means of developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy through international cooperation and, in particular, study the development of atomic power. It would also consider other technical areas, such as biology, medicine and radiation protection, as well as fundamental science, in which international cooperation might most effectively be realized. The joint proposal asked furthermore that the UN negotiate an appropriate agreement with the new agency, as is done with all specialized agencies.

There is no intention of preventing the Soviet Union or its satellites from joining the projected agency or attending the proposed technical conference. But it is evident that both programs have been formulated in a way that leaves little opportunity for Soviet obstructionism. The utilization of atomic energy for the benefit of mankind will go forward with or without the presence of the Communist-controlled states. At the same time the sponsoring powers manifest in their resolution their recognition of the legitimate interest of the United Nations itself in any atomic-energy program.

The new international agency is understood to be planned along the general lines of the proposal rejected by the Soviet Union and outlined in a memorandum of Secretary Dulles under date of March 19 to the Soviet Ambassador. It now appears that the body will not itself own or control nuclear materials. To use the words of Sir Pierson Dixon, speaking in the General Assembly on Nov. 8, the agency will not be a *bank* but a *broker* for the states possessing atomic energy facilities. The odds are good for the success of the agency and the conference.

R. A. G.

WASHINGTON FRONT

As of this writing, it looks as if, barring a recount overturn in Oregon, the Democrats will control the Senate in the 84th Congress as well as the House, where they will have a majority of 29.

This will give rise to a most interesting experiment in practical politics, for which I believe there is no precedent. True, before the election Mr. Eisenhower predicted that unless he got Republican majorities in Congress, there would be a "cold war" between him and the Democrats, and also "chaos." He handsomely retracted these words as too strong. Arthur Krock in the *New York Times* for Oct. 24 was more explicit. He drew an analogy between a divided Government under Eisenhower and those under Wilson, Hoover and Truman. I do not believe the analogy holds up.

There was bitter animosity between Wilson and the ruling clique of Republicans in the Senate, the "little group of willful men," as he called them. He was bound to fail. The philosophies of Hoover and the Democrats about depression tactics were miles apart, though the Congress did give him the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and other remedial measures, watered down, to be sure, but not all he asked. He is still bitter about this. Mr. Truman's "do-nothing" 80th Congress was anything but that on foreign matters. It gave him the Marshall Plan, the Truman Plan for Greece and Turkey, foreign aid, the "containment policy" toward Soviet Russia, but on domestic "Fair Deal" policies he was stymied—as he was, for that matter, in the Democratic 81st Congress that followed.

The situation, as I see it, is entirely different with a similar division under Eisenhower. The remainder of his "dynamic, forward-looking" program is approved by more Democrats than Republicans, who either ignored it or postponed it. So, speaking generally, he now stands a better chance of getting it than he did before. He says his program is "conservative in economic matters, liberal in matters of human welfare." He ought to be able, with careful management, to get the rest of the conservative part through a coalition of right-wing Democrats and die-hard Republicans, and the liberal part through another coalition of Northern Democrats and liberal Republicans.

Before this happens, some matters must be cleaned up. First, there is the cleavage between Eisenhower Republicans and Taftite Republicans, of whom Mr. McCarthy and his followers are a part. Unless he wins this battle, he may lose the war. Then, there are the deep scars left by the campaigns of Messrs. Nixon, Dewey and associates. He has already taken steps to heal these wounds.

WILFRID PARSONS

UNDERSCORINGS

The Poverello Medal of the College of Steubenville, Ohio, has been awarded this year to Llewellyn J. Scott, a Defense Department worker in Washington, D. C. The college, conducted by the Third Order Regular of St. Francis, makes the award annually to a person or organization exemplifying the "Christ-like spirit of charity" of St. Francis of Assisi. Mr. Scott, a convert to the Church, founded the Blessed Martin de Porres Hospice in a tenement area near the Capitol and maintains it largely out of his modest salary. The hospice feeds 65 to 80 men daily and provides beds for 40 a night.

► The College of New Rochelle, N. Y., has adopted a family-allowance plan for its lay faculty members, according to an NC dispatch of Nov. 4. Married faculty members will receive an allowance of \$150 a year for each dependent child. There are 30 lay members on the staff of 75. Mother M. Dorothea, O.S.U., president of the college, explained that the purpose of the plan was to enable young married faculty members to support their families at the same level as others in the professorial field, and to encourage them to remain in the field of education rather than have them attracted into industry by higher salaries.

► A \$1.5-million community campaign to extend the facilities of the University of Scranton, Pa., was announced Nov. 10 by Edward D. Lynett, editor and publisher of the *Scranton Times*, who is campaign chairman. Plans call for a science building, a faculty residence and the transformation of the former Scranton family residence into a library. The university, founded in 1888, was originally conducted as the College of St. Thomas by the Brothers of the Christian Schools. It was taken over in 1942 by the Society of Jesus.

► Under the title *Sören Kierkegaard and Catholicism*, the Newman Press, Westminster, Md., has published an English translation from the Danish by Richard M. Brackett, S.J., of an objective and extremely informative lecture on this topic by Rev. Heinrich Roos, S.J., professor of philosophy at the University of Copenhagen. Both the Catholic and the anti-Catholic aspects of the great Protestant theologian's thought are developed (pp. xx + 62. \$1.25).

► From Paris comes word of the death there on Oct. 25 of Rev. Henri Perrin, 40, in a highway accident. His experience as one of the first priest-workers appeared in this country as *Priest-workman in Germany* (Sheed and Ward, 1947). A priest of the diocese of Sens, he worked at the construction of a dam in the south of France until the ecclesiastical decree which ended the priest-worker experiment. (AM. 10/17/53; 11/28/53). C. K.

Role of the Church in society

While the American public was busy with the November 2 elections, some 250 Cardinals, archbishops and bishops were listening to Pope Pius XII vindicate the Church's authority in the political, social and economic spheres of human activity.

Perhaps the solemnity of the gathering in Rome could account for the prominence the Pope's address won in the U. S. daily press. More than likely, however, it was the topic, the role of the Church in public life, that proved so newsworthy. And that is strange, too, because it is an old theme and the Holy Father was not playing new variations on it. Often misunderstood, sometimes deliberately distorted, that theme dates from the days of the apostles. The Church has always insisted that God's moral law extends to all human actions.

The Holy Father scored those who would limit the action and authority of the Church to the "strictly religious"—to statements of the truths of the faith, administration of the sacraments and control of liturgical ceremonies:

The power of the Church is not bound by the limits of the "strictly religious," as they say, but the whole matter of the natural law, its foundation, its interpretation, its application, so far as their moral aspects extend, are within the Church's power.

Then the Holy Father specifies, by way of illustration, some of the social and political problems that cannot be declared outside the care and authority of the Church, since they pertain to the moral order, the conscience and the salvation of men. Such are:

... the purpose and limits of temporal authority; the relations between the individual and society, the so-called "totalitarian state," whatever be the principle it is based on; the "complete laicization of the state" and of public life; the complete laicization of the schools; war, its morality, liceity or non-liceity when waged as it is today, and whether a conscientious person may give or withhold his cooperation in it; the moral relationships which bind and rule the various nations.

When the Church speaks on such matters as these, she speaks, as the Holy Father put it, "not indeed like some private guide or adviser, but by virtue of the Lord's command and authority."

The perennial surprise in some quarters—the Pope mentioned "some lay Catholics, even those in high positions"—that the Church should make such claims is what is really surprise-worthy. "What requires explanation," wrote the Protestant R. H. Tawney, in his classic *Religion and the Rise of Capitalism*, "is not the view that these matters are part of the province of religion, but the view that they are not."

It is highly important to note, however, that the Church does not claim any competence in the technical aspects of economics or social policy. Pius XI explicitly stated in *Quadragesimo Anno* that it would

EDITORIALS

be "wrong for [the Church] to interfere without just cause in such earthly concerns." In the technical aspects of social and economic problems, he explained, the Church "has neither the equipment nor the mission" to interpose her authority.

The same distinction holds true for political affairs. The Church is concerned solely with their moral aspects. On March 16, 1946, in a public address, the Pope referred to Article 32 of the Concordat with Italy, forbidding ecclesiastics "to belong to, or participate in any political party," and declared: "The Church does not wish to be involved in any way in merely political questions. In these she allows Catholics as such full liberty of opinion and action." Again, addressing a group of foreign correspondents in May, 1951, the Holy Father declared: "A political power, that is to say, a power that pursues political ends with political means, the Church neither wants to be, nor is."

Those who find it hard to accept the role of religion in economic and political life might well reflect on what its denial involves. If there is no moral authority over the market place, then no law reigns there but the law of the jungle. And if the state is the sole judge of the morality of its actions, then the way to totalitarianism, as we moderns have good cause to know, lies open and inviting.

Toward unity on the Communist issue

President Eisenhower's wish, clearly indicated on a number of occasions, that the domestic Communist issue should be removed from politics may finally be realized. Toward this constructive end, the outcome of the November elections has unexpectedly contributed.

Even before the balloting on November 2, the professional politicians, who shape the form of election campaigns, were of divided minds about the impact of the Communist issue on the electorate. Some of them were so doubtful that in certain cases, as in the Massachusetts campaign, both sides ignored the issue. Now the ambiguous results of the elections have deepened these doubts and uncertainties.

In some instances, the Communist issue was effectively raised. In the Senatorial election in Colorado, the charge that Rep. John Carroll had been soft toward the Reds apparently led to his defeat. The Communist issue very likely contributed to Sen. Thomas Burke's

unsuccessful bid for re-election in Ohio. It seems to have reduced the pluralities of Sen. James Murray in Montana and former Sen. Joseph O'Mahoney in Wyoming. On the other hand, raising the Red issue did not prevent Sen. Paul Douglas and Sen. Hubert Humphrey from gaining smashing victories in Illinois and Minnesota respectively. And in New Jersey, where the issue was emphasized, former Rep. Clifford Case has apparently won the Senate seat vacated by Sen. Robert Hendrickson. Furthermore, among the defeated incumbents in the House of Representatives were three of the most vigorous anti-Communists in the 83rd Congress: Rep. Charles Kersten of Wisconsin; Rep. Fred. Busbey of Illinois; and Rep. Kit Clardy of Michigan, the last-named a member of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Another practical reason for interring the Communist issue arises from the composition of the next Congress. With the Democrats in control of both houses, the President must establish some kind of workable relationship with them. It is already clear that an essential condition for this will be an understanding on the Communist issue. Responsible Democratic leaders have made known to the President how bitterly they resent the charges of treason which the GOP has directed at their party. Since the President is personally opposed to smear techniques, he will very likely agree to be more alert than he has been in the past in detecting and stopping demagogic outbursts within his Administration. There will be no further cause for suspecting that FBI files have been used for political purposes. And on dismissals from the Federal service for security reasons, the Administration will be obliged to name names or cease and desist from making claims.

As part of a general political settlement of the Communist issue, the Democrats intend also to do away with the headline-hunting aspects of anti-Communist investigations. The President is unlikely to use the prestige of his office to impede this reform.

Just what the Democrats will propose has not yet jelled. There is strong sentiment for abolishing the House Committee on Un-American Activities and transferring its functions to the Judiciary Committee. Sen. John McClellan, who will head the Senate Committee on Government Operations, is known to favor confining the work of this group to probing suspected waste and corruption. To deal with subversive activities, the Senator from Arkansas would establish a new joint Senate-House committee and give it exclusive jurisdiction in the field.

Senator McClellan's proposal will probably appeal to a vast majority in this country. There is agreement among us on the need of continuing a strict congressional watch over the efforts of Communists to subvert our society. On this score we are a united people. It is lamentable, therefore, that the present investigative setup in Congress, which encourages competition for headlines, has had the effect of dividing us. A joint Senate-House Committee, especially if it consisted of

the ablest legislators available, might go a long way toward reconciling our feuding anti-Communist factions. It would certainly help to take the domestic Communist issue out of politics. Our anti-Communist program abroad is bipartisan. Why not put our effort to check communism at home on the same unifying basis?

U.S. envoy in Jerusalem

The United States has always recognized the validity of the United Nations resolution calling for the internationalization of Jerusalem. For this reason we have never allowed our Embassy to budge from Tel Aviv since the Israeli Government, in brazen defiance and even contempt of the UN resolution, moved from that city to Jerusalem. Up to the present our diplomatic business with Israel has been conducted either in Tel Aviv, or informally in Jerusalem. The formal transfer of our mission into this area would have constituted recognition of the *fait accompli* and, to that extent, disregard of the UN's authority.

What meaning are we to read, therefore, into the decision of the State Department to order our new Ambassador to present his credentials to the Israeli President in the Holy City? In spite of objections raised by the Arab states, our Government has instructed the Hon. Edward B. Lawson to go through this ceremony in Jerusalem. It is "normal procedure," says the State Department, for an envoy to present his letters of credence to the Head of the State wherever the residence of this official is located.

The fact that this residence happens to be in Jerusalem (that is to say, outside the territory we recognize as Israel's) is not related, in the mind of the State Department, to the issue of internationalization. The order to Ambassador Lawson, Secretary Dulles is quoted as saying, does not mean any change in existing U. S. policy toward the Arabs and does not mean we have gone back on our refusal to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The Arab diplomats who protested to the Secretary of State were assured that the American Embassy will remain in Tel Aviv.

But is it true that this extraordinary move does not constitute, or imply, a change of policy? The Israeli are already hailing it as a "bellwether act" leading to recognition of Jerusalem as their capital. The reasoning of the State Department in justifying the decision seems to us flimsy, indeed. Is it really "normal procedure" under the circumstances to take a move which is so liable to misinterpretation and opens the door to far-reaching consequences? Msgr. Thomas J. McMahon, national secretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, in a telegram of protest sent to President Eisenhower, has questioned the validity of the State Department's reasoning. The internationalization of the Holy Places has been to the honor of the United Nations. It will be just as much to the dishonor of our country to undo that work.

Japan: free-world responsibility

Vincent S. Kearney

Nine years ago, when General MacArthur's occupation army entered Tokyo, the Ginza, Tokyo's main street, was rubble and ruins from end to end. Today it rivals the business and shopping districts of any large American city. Free-spending Japanese jam the artery much as New Yorkers on a shopping spree clog Manhattan's Fifth Avenue.

This economic boom, however, is only apparent. Behind the Ginza's facade of steel and stone structures, which give eloquent testimony to the recuperative powers of the Japanese people, Japan's tottering economy threatens complete collapse. It is weakened by economic setbacks which are beyond the control of any nation and frustrated by tactics which have denied her world markets. Unless our erstwhile enemy rides out the gathering storm, there is danger that Japan will fall into the lap of the Communist bloc. Only the most ingenious could regard unconcernedly the prospect of losing to the Reds Japan's industrial capabilities and skilled manpower.

POPULATION AND FOOD

Japan's serious economic straits have two basic causes. Population-wise the country is bursting at the seams. Secondly, with the loss of her empire, pre-war Japan has shrunk by 52 per cent. She no longer has ready access to the food and raw materials so necessary if her burgeoning population is to survive in a manner compatible with human dignity.

At the end of 1953 the population of postwar Japan had increased from 72.5 million to almost 87 million. The repatriation of five million administrators, soldiers and colonists from the overseas empire accounts for 30 per cent of this phenomenal population growth. Natural increase of about a million a year is responsible for the remaining 70 per cent. At this rate, by 1956 some 90 million people will be crammed into the four islands of Kyushu, Shikoku, Honshu and Hokkaido. According to pre-war Japanese population experts, Japan will then have reached the saturation point.

Japan is one of the most densely populated areas of the world. If California were as thickly settled, Californians would number 93.5 million—60 per cent of the population of the entire 48 states. Gauge population density in Japan on the basis of arable land, and one finds that the average is a staggering 4,286 persons for every cultivable square mile, as compared to a little over 200 in the United States.

Small wonder that the Japanese farmer must manage to extract the maximum yield from Japan's scant 15 million acres of farm land. Rice production, for ex-

ample, averages 80 bushels per acre compared to 50 in the United States, 25 in the Philippines and a little more than 20 in India. Yet, despite such extraordinarily high yields, Japan must still import 20 per cent of her annual food supply at a cost of \$600 million. This means that 50 per cent of the value of Japan's exports must be set aside to purchase food abroad.

There is little leeway in food production, therefore, to allow for a lean agricultural year. Any slackening of Japan's high production rate of food has a telling impact on the whole economy. Last year, for example, because of a very cool summer, the fall's rice harvest was 20 per cent below normal. In round figures, unseasonable weather (repeated this past summer) cost Japan about 2 million tons of food. This meant additional imports of a like tonnage of assorted grains, costing 200 million of the precious dollars Japan needs if she is to purchase the raw materials necessary for the expansion and improvement of her industries.

Food is not the only essential import for a country which nature has endowed with so few natural resources. Japan's chief contribution to foreign trade in exchange for the food products she requires is her labor and technical skill. Almost all the raw materials needed for the exploitation of that skill must be purchased from abroad. To purchase them, however, Japan must be able to sell her products abroad. Yet for all practical purposes she is barred from world markets.

BALANCE OF TRADE

Up to the moment Japan has been able to keep her head above water and even give the appearance of having a sound, flourishing economy. This is because of a windfall of dollars from sources other than her export trade. Though the United States has never given Japan grants-in-aid, the country earned dollars during the Korean war in return for goods and services purchased for the U. S. armed forces. Our Army still awards contracts for the repair of its vehicles and equipment, thus employing Japanese labor. In addition, the personal expenditures of American soldiers in Japan reach even now the fantastic sum of between \$20 and \$50 million a month. Combined with the profits deriving from a very lucrative tourist trade, these special dollars amounted to \$800 million annually in the last two years.

The time is past, however, when even a dollar windfall of these proportions will enable Japan to preserve her trade balance. In 1952 special dollars were sufficient to offset the cost of necessary imports. But by

Fr. Kearney, S.J., associate editor of AMERICA, spent some time in Japan last July while on a tour of the Middle and Far East. In this discussion of the present critical state of the Japanese economy, he makes the point that the other free nations, unless they modify their restrictive trade policies, may eventually drive Japan into the arms of Red China.

1953 the effect of the Korean truce and the consequent curtailing of U. S. offshore procurement contracts began to be felt. Last year Japan experienced the loss of \$200 million and a 20-per-cent depletion of her foreign currency reserves. Unless exports are increased and imports reduced, she will come up with another dollar deficit in 1954 and be forced to cut still deeper into her reserve funds.

Reduction of imports is difficult, if not impossible, for a country which, like Britain, must trade to survive and which, unlike Britain, has no commonwealth on which it can depend as a source of supply.

A policy of increased exports poses its own problems. Before the war, raw silk and cotton textiles were two of Japan's major exports. Competition from synthetic fibers has sharply reduced the export of raw silk. Since many former substantial markets, such as India and Pakistan, have developed cotton-textile industries of their own, sales abroad of these products have declined. So Japan must alter the pattern of her export trade by emphasizing heavy-industry products such as steel, ships, machinery, chemical fertilizer and cement.

Japan, however, has had little experience in marketing these products. Moreover, spiraling inflation, which at one point in the postwar period carried prices as high as 300 times pre-war levels, has helped place them out of the reach of world markets. In consequence foreign sales have not kept pace with import requirements. In 1952 imports exceeded exports by \$756 million. Last year exports remained relatively steady at about \$1.2 billion, while imports rose to \$2.3 billion. Unless this grossly unbalanced trade account is righted, Japan will continue to suffer recurrent economic crises.

Since Japan has depended so much on a special inflow of dollars, now sharply reduced, to keep her economy balanced, it is not surprising that in seeking a scapegoat she should pounce on the withdrawal of U. S. dollars as the development responsible for her present economic straits. Yet, helpful as these dollar infusions were, they could not and never would provide a lasting solution to Japan's problems. This must come partly from Japan herself. Only Japan can increase the efficiency of her production to insure the reduction in costs which is necessary if her products are to be competitive in world markets.

To this end the resurgence of the *Zaibatsu*, the pre-war Japanese monopoly, may mean the salvation of Japan's industry—provided it is carefully controlled and provided this concentration of industry so peculiar to pre-war Japan does not, as it did then, remain in the hands of a few families. Nowhere in the world before the appearance of totalitarian governments had industrialization been achieved so rapidly as in Japan. As a result of the *Zaibatsu*, wealth accumulated in such great quantities that the owners were unable to con-

sume it and automatically plowed it back into industry.

TARIFF BARRIERS

But beyond this creating of a more efficient industry there are matters over which Japan has no control. She has failed, for example, to receive most-favored-nation treatment in many foreign markets. Other countries have insisted on maintaining tariff barriers on the products she desires to export. No matter what measures Japan takes to revive her former industrial efficiency, her task is insuperable so long as the free nations of the world refuse to take a realistic view of Japan's economic problem in its relation to world trade.

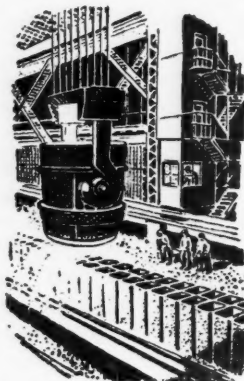
Contrary to general opinion—which usually predicts black peril once Japan is given her share of world markets—it is to the interest of the free world that she be given an opportunity to develop a balanced foreign trade. Japan is outranked only by Canada, Britain and Mexico in volume of goods imported from the United States. Trade with no one nation, of course, is sufficient to solve Japan's problem. It requires the cooperation of all the nations of the free world, especially those which have an interest in the stability of the Pacific area.

A few figures should be enough to point out that Japan's need for trade is not a one-way proposition. The United States, for example, sells Japan products valued at \$750 million a year and buys only a halting \$250 million worth. Canadian sales amount to \$100 million and purchases to only \$18 million. Australian sales approximate \$116 million, purchases only \$4 million. The Philippines sells goods valued at \$47 million and buys only \$18 million worth. The conclusion that if the free world expects Japan to continue as a market for its own goods, it must also buy from her, is a matter of simple arithmetic.

These figures also demonstrate that the benefits to be derived from a more liberal trade policy toward Japan override what harmful effects such a policy may have on a few domestic manufacturers in the countries concerned. If Japan cannot go on purchasing raw materials because of her gross imbalance of trade, the cotton farmers of the United States will suffer. So will the wool growers of Australia, the wheat producers of Canada and the miners of the Philippines. Only a prosperous Japan can contribute to the prosperity of the free world.

Britain, through her Commonwealth ties and consequent influence in Southeast Asia a natural market for Japanese goods, is in a better position than any other nation to help Japan solve her trade problem. The British policy of obstructing trade with Japan in this area has not gone without criticism, even in London. As the September 24 *Economist* pointed out:

The British have too long been content to leave the United States to grapple alone with the com-



plexities of the Japanese situation. Economic sense and political necessity alike demand that Britain should not only make room for Japan in the free world but . . . help it take its place.

Within a few months the member nations of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (Gatt) will vote on Japan's application for membership. It appears certain that with American support and the promise of backing from other quarters, she will be able to muster more than a few votes. Prudence would indicate that Britain drop her long-standing opposition.

Membership in Gatt for Japan would be a fitting supplement to other developments in recent weeks which could go a long way toward helping the country find its rightful place in world economy. With her admission to the Colombo Plan, Japan is now a member of an organization which stresses mutual self-help in lifting whole areas of Asia out of an economic morass. Thus Japan will have a chance of working her own way rather than remaining dependent on United States largesse. Moreover, with Japan an important cog in the Colombo Plan, Seato economic planners have a new source from which to build up a program of economic assistance for Southeast Asia.

Stewardship of the atom

Charles Keenan

IN THE ARTICLE immediately preceding, Father Vincent Kearney discusses the present critical state of the Japanese economy, and the obligations thence arising for the free nations. This would seem to be a suitable occasion for exploring a little more at length a proposal briefly touched upon in our October 9 issue (p. 35): that the United States build nuclear power reactors in underdeveloped countries, and first of all in Japan. The proposal was made September 21 by Thomas E. Murray of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission in an address before the United Steelworkers' convention in Atlantic City.

Before taking up Mr. Murray's proposal, we might profitably discuss for a moment the nature and economics of nuclear power reactors. A reactor is an atomic furnace in which nuclear energy is released, not suddenly and destructively as in the bomb, but in a controlled manner. By means of various technical devices, this energy can be used for the production of electric power. Reactors are of two basic types. One is for the primary purpose of producing plutonium for use in making bombs, with electric power

The reparations treaty with Burma, concluded by Japan on November 5, establishes a precedent whereby Japan may be able to iron out similar difficulties with other Asian nations. The agreement provides for Japanese reparations payments of upwards of \$200 million in addition to a \$50-million investment in joint enterprises. Japan is thus assured of some financial return on her reparations' payments and Burma of an influx of capital funds, plus skilled technical and agricultural assistance. A similar arrangement with the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaya and Thailand could result in a period of revived trade activity in Southeast Asia.

Whether or not Japan works her way back into the world trade picture, one thing is certain—this industrious nation of 87 million people is not going to disappear beneath the waves of the Pacific. Japan will survive. She will survive either under the auspices of the free world or under the auspices of the Soviet-Chinese Communist bloc, which already is holding out the tempting bait of "peaceful coexistence," normal trade and all the rest. The issue is as simple as that. Only the free world can resolve it in favor of the free world.

as a by-product. The other is primarily for the purpose of producing power and is not adapted to the production of weapons-grade plutonium.

Up to the present, AEC's emphasis in its programs has been on the production of plutonium rather than of power. One obvious reason for this emphasis is, of course, the necessity for keeping ahead in the nuclear-weapons race. Another reason is that the present conventional sources produce electric power at rates that the nuclear reactor cannot match, either now or in the immediate future. Moreover, there is at present, according to Mr. Murray, great uncertainty as to the economics of producing electricity by nuclear means. "Because the economics of nuclear power are so uncertain," he told the Steelworkers,

it is unrealistic to expect private industry to undertake, on a purely risk basis, anything like the effort that the world atomic-power problem demands. If our goal is electric power from the atom *at any early date*, the Government must continue to play the major role for the immediate years ahead (emphasis added).

Up to a comparatively recent date, the Government apparently saw no overriding necessity for embarking upon the production of nuclear power. Mr. Murray pointed out that our one power reactor, at Arco, Idaho, was built primarily for a military purpose: the experimentation that led to the construction of the power plant for the submarine *Nautilus*.

But the atomic-energy commissioner saw very cogent reasons why our Government should embark on a program of building reactors in underdeveloped areas as an adjunct to the President's plan for an international pooling of atomic materials and know-how (treated editorially on p. 199 of this issue).

Fr. Keenan, S.J., is managing editor of AMERICA.

First, there are underdeveloped countries in the free world with a serious shortage of the conventional sources of power. Nuclear power, if it can be produced reasonably soon, will help to supply the lack that at present impedes their development. And if we do not offer to do so, the Soviet Union will—at its own price. Said Mr. Murray:

If the USSR should win the industrial power race, the price tag for nuclear power reactors will be high. So high indeed that the purchaser will be forced to relinquish his birthrights and civil liberties . . . This must not happen.

Moreover, at a time when American prestige is everywhere under fierce attack by the Communists, it could easily be made to appear that, having ourselves no present need for nuclear power, we felt no interest in developing it for the benefit of those who do need it.

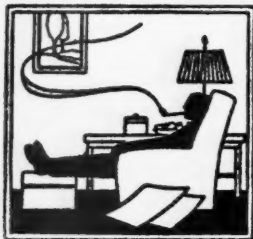
Turning more particularly to his suggestion that Japan should be the first beneficiary of a reactor pro-

gram, Mr. Murray saw it as “a dramatic and Christian gesture.” We would be showing in a most practical fashion the virtue of forgiveness toward our former enemies. We would assuage in their minds the bitterness left by the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

This last reason is given additional cogency by the wave of feeling that swept Japan upon the death on September 23 of Akichi Kuboyama, a victim of the radioactive fall-out following the H-bomb explosion in March at Bikini (cf. AM. 11/6, pp. 149-51). The presence in Japan of an American-built reactor supplying electric power would be tangible proof that the U. S. interest in atomic energy was peaceful and constructive as well as defensive.

Now is the time, concluded Mr. Murray, to marshal all our forces behind a drive to utilize the power of the atom in the ways of peace. “For only in this way can we justify before God our stewardship of the atom. . .”

FEATURE “X”



Fr. Brennan, diocesan superintendent of schools in Saginaw, Mich., offers some reflections on high-school courses giving “b-plus in parking,” and especially on their comparative rarity in Catholic schools.

MORE AND MORE high-school students find it possible to earn a “B-plus” in Parking or an “A-minus” in Left Turns as driver-training programs continue to multiply across the country. Catholic parents naturally ask: what about driver-training for my boy or girl in the local parish high school? For two reasons very few Catholic high schools offer driver-training.

First, some Catholic educators hold that driver-training has no place in the high-school curriculum. They view it as an outside activity which would take up school time unwarrantedly. The school, according to their argument, has more than it can do to teach pupils to know and serve God, to read, write, compute, accept Christian social responsibility, etc. Such skills as the operation of vehicles, they contend, should be taught by the home or other agencies.

In rebuttal, those who favor driver-training point to the terrible toll of traffic fatalities. They insist that the vast increase in the number of vehicles without a corresponding improvement of streets and highways has made greater traffic safety an absolute moral necessity in the United States. They speak of automobile accidents as “a national social disease,” which the school must help to control.

Those who favor driver-training insist that “home-

made” driver instruction is scarcely more feasible than “home-made” courses in other subjects. They insist that there is a vast difference between learning the mere mechanics of sitting behind the wheel and taking a complete course in driving a car safely.

This kind of arguing back and forth on the theoretical level can go on and on indefinitely. There are points to be made on both sides. In a world abounding in deadly machines and gadgets, it certainly seems clear that Catholic high schools have an obligation to impart some safety education to their pupils.

Many Catholic high schools would no doubt move with the driver-training trend were it not for another fact. That fact—the second and more compelling reason why Catholic high schools lack driving courses—is the shortage of Catholic teaching personnel.

Automobile dealers and insurance companies do much to eliminate the expense of driver-training for the school. The car or cars, the printed teaching materials and the necessary insurance are all provided free as a public service. But there still remains the need for an instructor who can devote his time to driver-training classes. Though the instructor receives his own preparatory course free of charge, he must be paid a substantial salary for his teaching work. Existing lay teachers in Catholic high schools cannot, as a rule, be spared from traditional classroom courses.

Entirely aside from the desirability or undesirability of driver-training as a school course, therefore, in most cases Catholics are forced by circumstances to forego it. All the arguments showing the need for driver-training—which many recognize as valid and compelling—must go unheeded.

We cannot even act on the argument that driver-training despite initial cost represents in the long run a great economy in life, limb and property. Our schools depend on voluntary contributions, and potential savings do not seem to promote an increase of these.

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not provide driving courses it might be good to go on and point out a very incongruous aspect of this whole situation. Driver-training aims to promote the common good by reducing accidents. To achieve this end driver-training should be available for all pupils regardless of race or religion.

It seems obvious that a young Catholic driver need not confine his accidents to Catholic cars or papist pedestrians. He is just as likely to smash someone's Protestant Plymouth or secular sacroiliac. Yet the commonwealth denies funds to certain high-school stu-

dents because they attend parochial high schools, which cannot provide driver-training from voluntary contributions. This is as logical as to deny to parochial-school pupils vaccination against disease.

We are aware that the U. S. Constitution, as interpreted, and State constitutions forbid using tax money to support religious schools. But driver-training definitely seems to be one of the "fringe benefits" which the state could provide to cooperating Catholic high schools for the safety of all its citizens.

THOMAS G. BRENNAN

The miracle of reading

Claire Huchet Bishop

It happened so long ago that most of us have forgotten it. Forgotten that irreversible moment of ecstasy when the printed line ceased to be just a design, and spoke to us and we heard it, and its meaning was clear. Perhaps it took place so gradually that we were not conscious of a particular minute when we began to read, or perhaps, after weeks or months of apparently fruitless efforts, it suddenly stood revealed, as if, within an instant, scales had fallen from our eyes. In either case the thrill was there, accompanied by an intoxicating sense of power and the feeling that we had taken a step which put us on an equal footing with the adults. We had at last entered this closed world of the printed word which had belonged exclusively to the grown-ups.

Often we had pretended that the world was not shut off from us; we had taken a book, opened it and, holding it (sometimes upside down) and looking very absorbed, we had made believe that we were reading. All the gestures connected with our parents' reading we watched and carefully imitated. It was like a ritual and we loved it and the quiet concentrated atmosphere which permeated the room. There was something special, important and mysterious about it all. It was apparent to us that the book said something to the reader, that a communication was established to which we did not hold the key. We longed for it. So we read, before we knew how to read, and this prepared us for the accomplishment itself.

When we actually started to learn how to read, our yearning may have left us temporarily, as difficulties piled up and demanded more and more effort. There may have been moments when we despaired of reaching the goal, and anger seized us against the printed symbols which seemed to be in league with the adults to keep us away from that enchanted world of reading. To us it was like an endless tunnel, and sometimes we thought we would never come out of it and,

LITERATURE AND ARTS

in our impatience and resentment, we declared boldly that we did not care if we ever learned to read.

Then came the time when the miracle was accomplished, when for the rest of our life we stood able to enter within the thoughts of another human being through the printed word. Unique, extraordinary event, so well described by Paul Montel of the French Academy of Sciences, in an address at the International Exhibit of Children's Books (Paris, 1952) as

... the permanent miracle which is going to accompany [the child] all through his life: through a combination of a limited number of words, without even the help of the voice, or the help of pictures which may adorn it, the book will cause to emerge, within his mind, feelings and ideas. Later, combinations of the same nature, but pertaining to a richer and more specialized field, will bring him, in the midst of silence and absence of motion, a perennial harvest of emotions and knowledge.

Today, among the varied means of communication, reading is the only one combining silence and absence of motion. That alone should confer on reading a special place, since a measure of quietness and stillness is indispensable to a well-balanced emotional life. Ordinary living provided it, decades ago. It does not any more. We have to feel the need for it and endeavor to make it possible. In the midst of a world of ever-increasing sensorial excitations, we have to introduce the child to silence, repose and attention from within. That state is naturally brought about by reading, all the more easily in that it can be enjoyed in company.

Mrs. Bishop, author of many juveniles, wrote Blessed Martin de Porres: Hero, mentioned on p. 209.

All present-day devices of communication have their valuable place, but they cannot substitute for the daily enjoyment of reading, which is a creative experience. It takes no great accomplishment on the part of the child to turn the knob of a radio or television set or to look at a movie. But reading requires active participation. The child may be thrilled by a new radio, and not only proud but also relieved that, at long last, he is no different from the child next door who already has one. He may be very interested in some of the radio programs, but when he has mastered reading, his joy is of another order, and so is the feeling of fulfilment as he goes on reading.

The child senses early that there is more to reading than just convenience or academic knowledge. Instinctively he approaches books from an "art" point of view. He demands of them the faculty to lift him up and make him wonder. This is the way for him to discover his own self. For, in the last analysis, through the confidential dialog between him and the printed line, that is what the child is after—the finding of himself. And only such works as help him on that road, for better or for worse, does he cherish. The other books he uses as tools.

There is a legitimate place for tools. Nowadays all kinds of documentaries for children reach a high and most commendable level of excellence in keeping with our technical-minded civilization. Much can be learned, and almost painlessly, through these fascinating, accurate and lively texts, often most effectively illustrated.

But the child's intuitive perception is right: the miracle of reading is meant for more than the mere possi-

bility of acquiring knowledge bit by bit, even through all eternity. The silent conversation pursued by reading breaks through our individual flesh-prisons; there is a meeting with another's self and, by it, with our own. This is the revelation which transports the child when reading a fairy tale, a fable, a fantasy, a story.

There is a literary form which more than any other conveys that experience of entering, so to speak, into the heart of men and things, and that is poetry. It is quite significant that at the International Conference for Peace and Civilization in Florence last June, prayer and poetry were linked together in the main theme chosen for discussion, "The place of prayer and poetry in civilization." The eminent French Jesuit, Père Daniélou, developed the idea that poetry is no escape, but straight communication, direct contact, inner immediacy.

Anyone who agrees with him will also realize how important is the place of poetry in a child's education. It is all the more distressing to note that, for the last two years, the children's book harvest has included very little poetry. Yet children take to it joyfully, as shown by their early love for simple nursery rhymes. Everyone knows this, but we allow boys and girls to be deprived of poetry through our own neglect in introducing them to it, unaware as we are of its irreplaceable character.

Poems, as well as those works which retain the power of imparting a lifelong secret, should accompany the young throughout their formative years. Thus the first rapture associated with the miracle of reading will not be lost, but will renew itself and grow into fruitful inspiration.

AMERICA balances books for the children

The children's book issue of the *Publishers' Weekly* (Oct. 23) states that some thirty-odd booksellers have reported that children's books about science, nature, biography and history are constantly increasing in popularity, while fiction is declining. This is reflected especially in the "overwhelming number" (say the booksellers) of new series—such as the "First" books, Landmark Books, Cavalcade Books, on which we shall try to report in the following roundup.

The trouble with these series, say the booksellers, is that the

... greatest plethora is of thinly disguised textbooks, and the greatest shortage is of first-rate imaginative fiction. . . . Publishers are publishing to please teachers and librarians, not to delight children and make them lifelong readers. We do best for the nursery years, worse and worse as the children grow older.

What benefits children can and do get from imaginative reading is wittingly and charmingly pointed out in the following excerpts from a letter by a nun-teacher of many years experience. She had been asked to comment on a book called *Blessed Mother Goose*, by Frank Scully, which attempts to adapt to "religious" purposes the immortal rhymes, while toning down their psychological "bad features." The excerpts are used with the nun's permission.

"... in a word, I think Mr. Scully has spoiled something very good. . . . All my life, even to old age and grey hair, I have loved Mother Goose, and I disagree with nearly every word of Mr. Scully's introduction about propaganda, modern psychology, unbelief, immorality, lowered ideals, etc., as the author applies these terms.

"Small children will care not at all about propaganda and historical references; they will seize the point of

every verse and rejoice in the retributive justice implied: each character gets what he deserves—the Piper's Son and the Knave of Hearts, a beating for lying and stealing; Mary, love, for the love she has given. The same sense of justice is found in the treatment of animals: 'if I don't hurt little pussy, she'll do me no harm.'

"For those dear old rhymes helped to cultivate a child's imagination, 'the cow jumped over the moon,' for example. It took years, and a very clever artist to show me how it could be done. And then, what a sense of rhyme and rhythm and good English diction the verses instilled! Dylan Thomas has used the same kind of alliteration, consonance and dissonance that Mr. Scully condemns as poor stuff: moon, broom; saddle, cradle; gander, wander.

"An increasing vocabulary came to every reader: pease-porridge; bag-pudding; lion and unicorn; cockle-

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ndemns as poor
; saddle, cradle;

cabulary came to
e-porridge; bag-
unicorn; cockle-

shells. Geography: London, Canter-
bury, Leeds and Gotham. The coun-
try and village scenes in England:
hills, hedges, stiles, lanes, farms,
wells and the little tuck shops where
the old woman sold plum cakes and
hot-cross buns. One heard the bells
of Old Bailey and Shoreham and the
Big Bell of Bow, and looked for them
on one's first trip to Europe. And the
riddles, and the statements of the
obvious that children love and make
with such solemnity: 'If nobody's with
me, I'm all alone.'

"Mr. Scully would find me very
faithful to my 'traditional prejudices.'

"In many ways [the letter goes on]
I try to get the freshmen I teach to
say something in a few words, and
read them some Mother Goose a few
weeks ago. Here are two of the best
of the twenty attempts handed in:

Little Linda loved the panda
Sitting on her bed.
Every night she slept with panda
Near her golden head.

Then one day when little Linda
Felt quite bad and mean,
Down she threw her pretty panda
On his backbone seam.

Little Linda pines for panda,
But she has him not.
Little Linda lost her temper—
Notice what she got.

REGINA FUCITO



From Chica

Books of attractive religious content

There are, happily, a good number of
books this season which have a very
solid and mature religious tone. Since
these are the books most in demand
during this season of the year, it might
be good to list them all here, as an
auspicious start to the survey.

For the very young, *Martin's Mice*,
by Sr. Mary Marguerite (Follet. \$2),
can be recommended. The way
Blessed Martin de Porres disposed of
the mice that plagued the monastery
makes a delightful Catholic Pied Piper
story. Raffaello Busoni's pictures add
to the action and the fun. *The Little
Friends of Jesus*, by Marcelle Auclair
(Regnery. \$2), presents the Gospel in
terms of a child's daily life in text and
lovely illustrations by Mary Gehr. It
is a fine book for reading aloud. A
third book for the quite young is
Pelagie Doane's *Bible Children* (Lip-
pincott. \$2.75). The stories are pre-
sented in easy style, with no distortion
of the Old Testament themes.

For the ages of about 8-12, there
are the following good books. Claire
H. Bishop gives a brief but realistic
account of *Blessed Martin de Porres*,
Hero (Houghton Mifflin. \$2.50), in a
book that stresses the advanced ideas
of the *beatus* for the betterment of so-
ciety. Jean Charlot's art is strong. *The
Story of the Rosary*, by Katherine
Wood (McKay. \$2.75), is not a his-
tory but rather an elaboration of the
mysteries in biblical terms. It is quite
lovely and inspiring.

Legends of Saints and Beasts, by

Anne Marie Jauss (Aladdin. \$2.50),
and *Saints Alive*, by Arnold L. Haskell
(Roy. \$2.50), are excellent. The first
is in the spirit of a medieval manu-
script and is filled with an air of rever-
ent gaiety. The second contains lives
of only six saints, but is attractive and
unsentimental and says some good
things about holiness. Potential saints
are dealt with in *Hail, the Altar Boy*,
edited by Rev. David E. Rosage
(Bruce. \$1.75), wherein the functions
of these "mighty mites" are viewed by
such personages as Cardinal Spellman,
Bing Crosby and various priests and
religious. It is appealing and occasion-
ally humorous.

Two young saints who appeal to to-
day's youngsters are the subjects of
Teen-Ager's Saint: Saint Maria Goretti,
by Msgr. James Morelli (Grail. \$2),

A little brown bear asleep in the
sun
Was idly dreaming of yesterday's
fun.

He thought of the fruit and the
honey he'd had

And all that now made his tum-
my feel bad.

He wished he could have it all
back once more,

The mirth and the food and the
games galore,

But said, as he crawled back into
his den:

'Yesterday's gone and can't be
again.'

MICHAEL HERON

Perhaps we might have more imag-
inative books for Catholic children if
aspiring young writers had all been
raised on the real Mother Goose, and
had tried, under such excellent guid-
ance, to catch some of the qualities
pointed out.

The books which follow in the sur-
vey will help young people to develop
their taste in imaginative reading.

and *Dominic Savio*, *Teen-Age Saint*,
by Peter Lappin (Bruce. \$2.75). The
second is particularly notable for its
warmth and humor and for its insist-
ence on the young saint's ambition to
be perfect in ordinary things.

The magnificent story of courage
and faith which Marie Killilea told in
Karen has been retold for young peo-
ple in *Wren* (Dodd, Mead. \$3). The
retelling may be a bit on the senti-
mental side, but the depth of the spir-
itual values is still there.

For older girls, particularly, *The
Foreigner*, by Gladys Malvern (Long-
mans, Green. \$2.75), will be a treat.
It is a retelling of the Old Testament
story of Ruth, and is remarkable for
its vivid recreation of scene and at-
mosphere, as well as for its fidelity to
the spirit of the biblical account.

Picture books and books to be read aloud from

Here is a goodly array of picture
books, arranged progressively from
those for the very, very young up to
those for the youngster who is threat-
ening to begin reading on his own al-
most any time.

For the toddlers, get any or all of
the following. *William's Shadow*, by
Margot Austin (Dutton. \$1.75), tells
how Wm. Woodchuck was very will-
ing to be fed in bed by his friends,
until his large appetite forced him out
of doors. What happened when he
saw his shadow makes a funny tale.

Ingri and Edgar P. d'Aulaire tell, in
Animals Everywhere (Doubleday.
\$2), how animals all over the world
behave and make themselves heard.
Mr. Koala Bear (Scribner. \$2), is
Elizabeth MacIntyre's story of how the
young bear, living cozily in his Aus-
tralian tree top, is called on to extend
his hospitality to two visitors. Another
animal features in *Horton Hears a
Whol*, by Dr. Seuss (Random. \$2.50),
a zany story of how a good-natured
elephant gets the jungle creatures to
unite to help the people of Who-ville.

GRAIL BOOKS *for you*

PRIMARY GRADES (1-3)

FADDEN, MARIE-CELESTE.

St. Francis and the Wolf. \$1.50

The Fadden books, with their simple text and charming pictures in several colors, have been especially designed for the youngest members of the family. Spiral bound, they are printed in extra large type on heavy paper. The first of the series relates the amusing story of how Saint Francis of Assisi tamed a wild wolf near the town of Gubbio, so that eventually the dreadful beast became a much-loved pet. 20 pages.

FADDEN, MARIE-CELESTE.

The Boy Who Changed the World. \$2.00

All the little folks will love to hear about Saint Benedict, his twin sister Saint Scholastica, and what they did to help the people of their times to know and love God. 26 pages.

FADDEN, MARIE-CELESTE.

Martin and His Magic Carpet. \$2.00

The touching story of Blessed Martin de Porres, the Negro lay Brother who lived in Lima, Peru, in the sixteenth century, and who is now the Patron of Interracial Justice. 32 pages.

FADDEN, MARIE-CELESTE.

Noah's Ark. \$2.00

The famous Bible story of how Noah and his family survived the flood, together with their many animal friends. 25 pages.

MAHON, JULIA C.

His Name Is Jesus. \$2.00

This is a "read-to-me story" for small boys and girls, enriched with extremely appealing illustrations in brilliant red and dark green. In simple words the author tells the little ones about their best friends—Jesus and Mary—and their worst enemy, the Devil. Spiral-bound on heavy paper. Fourteen full-page illustrations by Gedge Harmon. 31 pages.

MOORE, MARGARET and

MOORE, JOHN TRAVERS.

Little Saints. \$1.50

Sketches of seventeen young saints comprise this attractive offering of a well-known husband and wife writing team. The stories (there are verses, too!) appear in chronological order, according to the respective feast days of the youthful heroes and heroines. The text is in deep blue, the fifteen full-page illustrations and twelve chapter headings by Gedge Harmon in bright orange. Paper-bound. 63 pages.

MOORE, MARGARET and

MOORE, JOHN TRAVERS.

Big Saints. \$2.00

A companion volume to the above, containing seventeen more attractive little sketches of the saints. Illustrated by Gedge Harmon. 80 pages.

TORRIANI, AIMEE, and ELLIS, PATSY

Rag-a-Tag. \$1.25

Rag-a-Tag was a lazy little fairy who wouldn't keep his promises. He was dreadfully forgetful,

too. But the Garden People loved him just the same, as this collection of five short stories proves only too well. Beautifully illustrated by Gedge Harmon, this is a book that will be cherished by every little boy and girl. 78 pages.

TORRIANI, AIMEE, and ELLIS, PATSY.

Amber Eyes. \$1.50

Six more exciting stories about the Garden People—including Rag-a-Tag—to delight the very young. Illustrated by Gedge Harmon. Large print. 68 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.

Antonietta. 50¢

This bids fair to be one of the most popular picture books ever to appear for Catholic boys and girls. It tells the story of Antonietta Meo, a remarkable little girl who was born in Rome in 1930, who died of cancer at the age of six and one-half years, and whose Cause for Beatification is now being promoted by the Cistercian Order. Since the forty large pictures by Gedge Harmon have been done in "open style," they afford excellent material for little hands to color with paints or crayons. A simple text, in extra large type, appears under each picture. Paper-bound, with two-color cover. 40 pages.

LOWER GRADES (3-5)

MARTIN, URBAN PAUL

The Family Rosary for Children. \$1.00

The whole family will derive benefit from this appealing book, which gives a brief history of the Rosary and an easy-to-follow explanation of how to pray each mystery with increased spiritual profit. Large print. Six colors. Illustrated by a Sister of Charity. 71 pages.

WILLIAMSON, MARY PAULA.

Our Lord Jesus. \$1.00

A simple re-telling of the main events in the life of Our Lord, from His birth at Bethlehem to His Ascension into heaven. Fourteen full-page illustrations by Sister Mary Gertrude, O.S.B. Spiral-bound. 81 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.

My Name Is Thomas. \$1.25

The two Benediction hymns, *O saluatoris* and *Tantum Ergo*, are familiar to Catholics the world over. But the same cannot be said for their author, Saint Thomas Aquinas. Here is a fascinating account of this great man's life in autobiographical style, which will hold the attention of every boy and girl. Eight full-page silhouettes by Sister Mary Jean, O.P. 88 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.

Little Sister. \$1.50

Blessed Imelda Lambertini, the Patroness of First Communicants, has always been a great favorite with younger audiences. In fact, this little story of her life has become so popular that it has been translated into several foreign languages, including Japanese, for use in the foreign mission field. Fourteen full-page illustrations by Gedge Harmon. Large print. 85 pages.

MIDDLE GRADES (5-7)

CHAMINADE, MARIE.

Our Lady's Tinker. \$1.25

Father William Joseph Chaminaide, the founder of the Marianists, lived in the perilous days of the French Revolution. But this did not dampen his spirits, or keep him from doing great things for the Church. Young folks will enjoy meeting this great servant of God, whose cause for beatification is now pending in Rome. Twelve full-page illustrations by Gedge Harmon. 57 pages.

ERNEST, BROTHER.

The Man Under the Stairs. \$1.00

Saint Alexius, patron of the Alexian Brothers, is surely one of the strangest men to be raised to the altars of the Church. For seventeen years he lived as a beggar in his own home, unrecognized either by wife or parents. But on his death the picture changed completely, and today he is widely venerated, especially in the Eastern Churches. Eight full-page illustrations by Margaret Istenes. 34 pages.

HOLLAND, MONSIGNOR CORNELIUS J.

The Divine Story. \$2.50

Long a favorite with young readers, this *Life of Our Lord* has recently been re-edited and now appears in a far more attractive format. There are also several new illustrations by Gedge Harmon. A fine addition to any school or home library. 173 pages.

NEWELL, E. VIRGINIA.

The King's Hostage. \$1.50

The pagan Tartars of the thirteenth century were as much of a threat to western Europe as the Communists are today. King Bela the Fourth of Hungary, especially worried about the future of his country, decided to vow his unborn child to God's service in return for peace. How this child, Princess Margaret, went to live at an island monastery in the Danube, near Budapest, and became the sixteenth canonized saint of the Dominican Order, is the theme of an unusual and delightful story for young folks. Eleven illustrations by Pauline Eppink. 68 pages.

SANDBERG, HAROLD WILLIAM.

Drums of Destiny. \$2.00

An exciting biography of Kateri Tekakwitha, the little American Indian girl who died in the odor of sanctity on April 18, 1680, near the present city of Montreal. Twelve full-page illustrations by Paul A. Grout. Large print. 98 pages.

SANDBERG, HAROLD WILLIAM.

Black-Robed Samson. \$1.50

Boys (and girls, too!) will enjoy this lively story of Father Peter De Smet, S.J., the young man from Belgium whose missionary journeys led him on countless adventures among the Indian tribes of the American midwest. Eleven full-page illustrations by Paul A. Grout. Large print. 75 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.

Little Queen. \$2.00

An extremely skillful adaptation for children of the famous *Autobiography of Saint Therese of Lisieux*. Now in its third edition, with eight full-page illustrations by Gedge Harmon. Large print. 167 pages.

Most Catholic Book Stores have GRAIL BOOKS in Stock!

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ILLIAM.

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ILLIAM.

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WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.
The Children of Fatima. Cloth: \$2.00
Paper: \$1.00

This fascinating account of the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima has the enviable distinction of being the first book on the subject to be published in the United States. Now revised and brought up-to-date, the fifth edition continues high in the best-seller class. Sixteen full-page illustrations by Gedge Harmon. 143 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.
The Medal. \$2.00

Many people have heard about the Miraculous Medal, but few are aware of when and how it came into being, or why Our Lady wishes it to be worn about the neck. As a result, this beautifully written little book is filling a long-felt need throughout the country. Large print. Twenty-one full-page illustrations by Gedge Harmon. 107 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.
The Children of La Salette. \$2.50

What happened when Our Lady appeared at Lourdes and Fatima is common knowledge to most of us. But it is a different matter concerning her visit to Melanie Mathieu and Maximin Giraud on September 19, 1846, near the French village of La Salette. And this, despite the fact that the message given these children, if it had been heeded, could have prevented two World Wars. Now, for the first time in English, we have the full and detailed account of this little-known apparition of the Virgin of the Alps. Seventeen full-page illustrations by Gedge Harmon. 188 pages.

JUNIOR GRADES (7-9)

BURKHARD, LEO CHARLES.
Master of Mischief Makers. \$2.50

As a canon of the Cathedral of Rheims, wealthy in his own right and devoted to prayer and study, young John Baptist De La Salle was agast when friends suggested that he leave his beloved solitude and busy himself with the education of poor boys. For a year or more he struggled against this unlooked-for calling, then changed his mind. What happened next makes this colorful biography of the Founder of the Christian Brothers an exciting experience for every teen-age reader. Twelve full-page illustrations by Gilbert Titus. 211 pages.

GLASS, SISTER MARY FIDES.
Prince Dimitri's Mountaineers. \$2.50

The story of Dimitri Gallitzin, the young Russian prince who came to America in the late eighteenth century, was ordained a Roman Catholic priest at Baltimore, and then became the Apostle of the Alleghenies, makes interesting reading indeed. As a sequel to *THE PRINCE WHO GAVE HIS GOLD AWAY*, Sister M. Fides Glass now presents this collection of short stories about Prince Dimitri's devoted parishioners—men and women whose descendants (of whom she herself is one) still reside in and about Loretto, Pennsylvania. Thirteen full-page illustrations by Stephen Grout. 199 pages.

MAHERN, ELYSE.
Save Us a Seat, Timmy! \$2.00

This day by day account of the "growing pains" of her brood, as set down by a young Catholic mother, was originally intended only for adult audiences. However, it has won a surprising following in the schools, particularly among teen-age girls. Truth, wit and wisdom sparkle on every page, and the twenty-two pen and ink sketches by Paul A. Grout add to the general appeal. 135 pages.



MORELLI, MONSIGNOR JAMES.
Teen-Ager's Saint. \$2.00

Maria Goretti, the eleven-year-old martyr of purity who was canonized in 1950, has made many friends for herself among today's youngsters. Now Monsignor Morelli's competent account of her brief life will surely make her even better known and loved. Eight distinctive illustrations by Gertrud Januszewski. 84 pages.

O'BRIEN BARTHOLOMEW J.
The Heroic Aloysius. \$2.00

Tradition insists that Aloysius Gonzaga, the 16th-century Jesuit scholastic who died at the age of twenty-three, is "The Patron Saint of Youth." The hard fact of the matter is, however, that Aloysius has usually been portrayed in such a forbidding manner, both by artists and writers—thin, bloodless, head bent, a lily in his hand—that few young Americans have actually taken him to their hearts. Thus, this present virile biography where Aloysius emerges as a real boy—one who could fence and ride, and who even knew how to shoot off a cannon—is a much needed and welcome surprise. Numerous illustrations by Paul A. Grout. 83 pages.

TORRIANI, AIMEE.
The Jester's Prayer. \$2.50

Here is an unusual novel with a medieval flavor which has proved a great favorite with teen-age girls. Danger, intrigue, adventure and finally romance surround a young princess who masquerades as a troubadour in the days when knighthood was in flower. Nineteen illustrations by Pierre Juzet. 177 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.
The Parish Priest of Ars. \$2.00

From early boyhood John Marie Vianney had longed to be a priest. But when he finally began the necessary studies in his late teens, the superiors decided he was too slow at books and dismissed him from the Seminary. Yet God had great plans for young John, and in the end he took up his studies again, was ordained at the age of twenty-nine, and became one of the most famous parish priests the world has ever known. Twenty full-page illustrations by Gedge Harmon. 163 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.
David and His Songs. \$2.00

The psalms of King David were among the prayers taught the Christ Child by Mary and Joseph. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, and beautiful beyond words, they still form the major portion of the Divine Office of the Church. However, it is only too true that to many moderns the psalms have only slight appeal. Hence, the importance of this attractive little book, which brings their royal author to life and re-creates the ancient background of his prayers with amazing fidelity and skill. Twenty full-page illustrations by Gedge Harmon. Large print. 153 pages.

According to all age groups

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.
The Man on Fire. \$2.50

The Epistles of Saint Paul may seem dull and meaningless when read at Sunday Mass, but not if one knows the man who wrote them. Here is the unforgettable story of the Apostle of the Gentiles, who spent the first half of his life in persecuting the Church of God, and the other half in loving atonement for his blindness. Twenty-one full-page illustrations by Paul A. Grout. 193 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.
Our Lady's Slave. \$2.50

If ever a man was persecuted for having written a book, it was Saint Louis Mary Grignon De Montfort. Yet today that same book, "The True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary," is famous throughout the world. And its message is famous, too—that sanctity need not consist of long prayers and difficult penances, but merely of giving ourselves and all that we have into the hands of the Blessed Mother for her to do with as she pleases. *OUR LADY'S SLAVE* explains this "secret" beautifully, and presents an absorbing account of the life of Saint Louis De Montfort, too. Twenty full-page illustrations by Paul A. Grout. 201 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.
Pennies for Pauline. \$3.00

It goes without saying that the Society for the Propagation of the Faith is known to every practicing Catholic. But what about the twenty-year-old French girl who founded it in 1819? Until just a few years ago, Marie Pauline Jaricot (the daughter of a millionaire but a pauper at her death in 1862), was denied this privilege that was so rightfully hers. But now that her Cause for Beatification has been introduced at Rome, Marie Pauline is finally coming into her own. Here is the thoroughly engrossing story of a real heroine, a splendidly written book which no young reader will want to miss. Twenty-one full-page illustrations by Paul A. Grout. 244 pages.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.
Mission for Margaret. \$3.00

Miss Windeatt's twentieth book for young folks is a masterful account of the life of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, and her efforts to promote a universal love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is a "must" for all school and home libraries, especially in these days when the devotion of the Nine First Fridays is so widely practiced but so little understood. Twenty-one illustrations by Paul A. Grout. 231 pages.

SPECIAL CLASSIFICATION (Grades 1-6)

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN.
Our Lady Color Book Series. 25¢ each

These separate stories of ten of Our Lady's apparitions were a special project for the Marian Year. Each book has sixteen pages of text and sixteen pictures (by Gedge Harmon) to be filled in with water colors or crayons. The apparitions include the more familiar ones, such as those at Guadalupe, Paris, La Salette, Lourdes and Fatima, as well as those which are not so well known: at Pontmain, Pellevoisin, Knock, Beaurain and Banneux. Children and adults have been so unanimous in their praise of these unusual little books, with their attractive two-color paper covers, that numerous reprintings have been necessary. Extra large type. 33 pages.

GRAPUBLICATIONS



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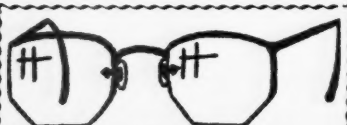
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Legends of four saints . . .
and the animals associated with them

Legends of Saints and Beasts

Selected and illustrated in color by
ANNE MARIE JAUSS. The four leg-
ends are of St. Jerome and the Lion,
St. Roch and the Dog, St. Francis and
the Wolf, and St. Macarius and the
Hyena. The text is based on authentic
material, and the beautiful illustra-
tions are exceptionally appealing. 48
pages, 6 3/4 x 8 3/8. Ages 8-12.

December Selection of The
Catholic Children's Book Club

\$2.50 at all bookstores

ALADDIN BOOKS • NEW YORK 3

CHILDREN AND INFORMATION

Two little boys feature in *Where's Andy*, by Jane Thayer (Morrow, \$2), and *Hide and Seek Day*, by Gene Zion (Harper, \$2.50). The first tells how Andy hides whenever his mother calls him—though the illustrations, by Meg Wohlberg, give him away in the pages; the second follows a lad as he plays hide-and-seek with trains, animals and so on in a careless jaunt. Margaret B. Graham's illustrations are striking, double-spread ones.

Three picture-books for the very young which are rather on the infor-
mative side are: *How Do You Travel?*,
by Miriam Schlein (Abingdon, \$1.50),
which tells how animals, birds, ma-
chines and humans get about; *Wheel
on the Chimney*, by Margaret Wise
Brown (Lippincott, \$3), which de-
tails, with fine help from the remark-
able pictures by Tibor Gergely, the
migrations of storks from Europe to
Africa; and *Who Built the Bridge?*,
by Norman Bate (Scribner, \$2),
which shows how the engineers had to
get the bridge over the mean and rest-
less river before it rose in flood to pro-
test.

Finally, a real gem for this age-
group is Marguerite de Angeli's *Book
of Nursery and Mother Goose Rhymes*
(Doubleday, \$5). It is a delightful
collection and superbly illustrated.

ANIMALS AND FOREIGN SCENES

Picture-books for slightly older chil-
dren have their share of animal heroes,
too. When a good-natured lion walked
out of his open cage, he found that
people were not so friendly as they
had been when he was locked up.
Louise Fatio tells this amusing story,
in *The Happy Lion* (Whittlesey,
\$1.95). Roger Duvoisin's Gallic-flav-
ored pictures add to the fun and drama.
The dangers and delights of everyday
life in the woods is the theme of *Hurry*,

Scurry and Flurry, by Mary and Con-
rad Buff (Viking, \$2.75), and the
feasting and frolic with which the
modest little cat, Jenny Linsky, cele-
brates her birthday provide the fun
and action in *Jenny's Birthday Book*,
by Esther Averill (Harper, \$2). The
last animal hero is the big dog in *Matt
and Mandy and the Big Dog*, by Ruth
Simon (Crowell, \$2.50), a tale of how
Bigger attaches himself to a camping
party and turns out to be quite a life-
saver.

Three older picture-books have a
charming foreign touch about them.
Plenty to Watch, by Mitsuo and Taro
Yashima (Viking, \$2.50), describes in
text and lovely pictures the sights
some Japanese children see as they
walk home from school through the
village. *A Hat for a Hero*, by Laura
Bannon (Whitman, \$2.75), tells how
a little Mexican boy wins a real man's-
style hat by his presence of mind in
the face of danger. *The Birthday*, by
Hans Fischer (Harcourt, Brace, \$3),
is the story of how the animals in the
household of kind old Lisette work out
some surprises for her 76th birthday.

Two circus stories will appeal. They
are *Circus Ruckus*, by Will and Ni-
colas (Harcourt, Brace, \$2.75), the
tale of how Dan and his dog Kelly get
into one of the acts and almost steal
the show, and *Baker's Man*, by Ros-
alys Hall (Lippincott, \$2.50), a gay
and humorous account of how the
traveling circus steals away the heart
of the baker of Ufhofen, but how
everything turns out all right when a
baker's apprentice shows up.

Fans will cheer the fact that an-
other Flora McFlimsey story has ap-
peared. This one, *Flora McFlimsey
and Little Laughing Water*, by Mari-
ana (Lothrop, Lee & Shepherd,
\$1.25), takes the heroine into adven-
tures in an Indian village, and rewards
her with a present of which she is
very proud.

Easy reading for those embarking on their own

Nature stories are an easy and at-
tractive way of showing the young
reader the fun and delight that lie in
books. Four may be mentioned here.
Evelyn Weiss' *Mixups and Fixups*
(McKay, \$2.50) is a collection of
newfangled animal stories, refreshing
in plot and told in wonderful dead-
pan dialog. Youngsters will appre-
ciate the tie-in with everyday human
doings. *Wide River*, by Dorothy
Childs Hogner (Lippincott, \$2), tells
winningly of a little chipmunk and
how a near-disaster in the form of a
flood brings him the companion he

longs for. A bear who goes to war in
the Canadian Army in his master's
place is the hero of *Alphonse, That
Bearded One*, by Natalie Savage Car-
lson (Harcourt, Brace, \$2.50), and a
year in the life of a tree-frog is
sketched interestingly in *Tree Frog*,
by Paul McC. Sears (Holiday House,
\$2), who also tells how to make a pet
of one—parents beware.

STORIES OF OTHER LANDS

Passing on to human protagonists,
let's start with stories about other
lands for young readers. The flavor of

ary and Con-
5), and the
which the
Linsky, cele-
vide the fun
irthday Book,
er. \$2). The
dog in *Matt
Dog*, by Ruth
a tale of how
o a camping
quite a life-

books have a
about them.
su and Taro
describes in
the sights
see as they
through the
o, by Laura
5), tells how
a real man's-
of mind in
Birthday, by
Brace. \$3),
imals in the
ette work out
th birthday.
appeal. They
Will and Ni-
2.75), the
log Kelly get
almost steal
an, by Ros-
2.50), a gay
of how the
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McFlinsey
er, by Mari-
Shepherd.
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his master's
houshe, *That
Savage Carl*-
2.50), and a
tree-frog is
Tree Frog,
liday House.
o make a pet

LANDS

protagonists,
about other
The flavor of

everyday life in Catholic French Can-
ada is well caught in *Pierre of the
Island* (Bruce. \$2); Nicolette M.
Stack tells how the young boy finds it
hard to get interested in Quebec, de-
spite the interesting things in the
Brothers' school, and how he really
appreciates home when he revisits it.
Clyde R. Bulla spins an adventure-
some tale in *Squanto, Friend of the
White Man* (Crowell. \$2.50). When
the hero finally realizes his ambition
to leave England for the New World,
he is captured and taken in chains to
Spain, where he is befriended by some
friars. He gets back to America in
time to become friends with the men
of Plymouth. Three Irish children
lead an enchanted life as swans in
The Swans of Ballycastle, by Walter
Hackett (Ariel. \$2.75), in order to
escape unhappiness. When they re-
turn to human life, centuries have
passed. There is a haunting quality to
this Rip Van Winkle theme. Finally,
in *Anansi, the Spider Man* (Crowell.
\$2.50), Philip Sherlock recounts some
old West African tales as they are still
repeated today by the descendants of
the original tellers.

Two very excellent stories are *The
Angel in the Hayloft*, by Katherine
Niles (Dutton. \$1.50), and *A Penny's
Worth of Character*, by Jesse Stuart
(Whittlesey. \$1.50). The first is a
delicate story of an angel who was
disguised by a farmer's wife and
played among the unsuspecting chil-
dren, who were not always kind. But
when Christmas came, the angel's
friends found her and they all flew
off singing. The second tells, in a story
full of love of the outdoors, of an un-
derstanding of boy-character and of
the finest of real American character-
istics, how Shan cheats the storekeep-
er of a penny, only to have his lax
conscience stirred by his good mother.

SPECIALS FOR GIRLS

Young girls will be won by *Ballet
for Mary* (Knopf. \$2.50) and *Beyond
the Pawpaw Trees* (Harper. \$2.50).
The first, by Emma L. Brock, is full
of fine dialog and a good sense of
family relations, as it tells how the
family was appalled when "sudden
Mary" decides to take ballet lessons.
She comes through famously and even
saves the day at a recital. The second
story, by Palmer Brown, is a sort of
dream-fantasy in which the young
girl discovers that her father, missing
for many years, has been chasing
rainbows and can't come home until
he has found the key to the rainbow
gold. She has the key, so they collect
the gold and return happily home.

MORE SPECIALS FOR BOYS

Boys in this age-group have an even
better selection to chose from—or to
be chosen from for (so to speak).

Three Boys and a Mine, by Ellen
Wilson and Nan H. Agle (Scribner.
\$2), tells how self-reliant triplets, on
a visit to a mine, despair of ever get-
ting under ground, but realize their
dream through the good services of
their dog. Action and fun balance the
information.



From *Bubo, the Great Horned Owl*

Good psychology is wrapped in a
pleasing story in Helen T. Hilles'
Moving Day (Lippincott. \$2). Tim
is bewildered when the family moves
from a house to an apartment, but all
is finally smoothed out, and home be-
comes just as it always was. A vivid
and convincing capturing of the ex-
citement that children can seize on in
little events features in *John's Back-*

Yard Camp, by Marion Renick (Scrib-
ner. \$2), a story of how the boy, not
able to get to a real camp, finds fun
in the camp his aunt suggests he and
his friends build.

A story of Western ranch life, which
deals with a boy and a stubborn horse
that comes through wonderfully in a
forest fire, is *Chica*, by Sally Scott
(Harcourt, Brace. \$2.25). Good
Americana in tall-tale style is served
up in *Tom Benn and Blackbeard the
Pirate*, by Le Grand (Abingdon. \$2).
The very job Tom hates most is the
one he gets to perform while serving
Blackbeard, but it provides the meth-
od of escaping to warn the home folk
of an imminent raid.

FINE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

An unusual story, which will appeal
to the discriminating boy or girl, is
Impunity Jane (Viking. \$2.50). In it,
Rumer Goden, with the help of fine
illustrations by Adrienne Adams, tells
of a little pocket doll that had been
handed down from one dull little girl
to another. Gideon finally steals it
and it becomes the mascot of his gang,
performing all sorts of deeds of der-
ring-do. Conscience at last catches up
with Gideon, but Jane, the doll, is
still doing dare-devil stunts at the end
of the zestful story.

SELECT READING FOR FALL

More Blessed Than Kings

Essays on Certain Minor Characters in the Four Gospels

By Vincent P. McCorry, S.J.—Reflections on such Gospel figures as Simeon, Mary and Martha and Mrs. Zebedee teaching lessons on the spiritual life and displaying the author's sense of supernatural playfulness and a firm grasp of sound common-sense. The present volume displays the same fine sense of humor as Fr. McCorry's previous books—*Most Worthy of All Praise, As We Ought* and *Those Terrible Teens*. \$3.00

The Bible in Crosswords

By Henry Michael — Seventy-two crossword puzzles, one for each book of the Bible, calculated to tax the ingenuity of puzzle fans everywhere. \$.90

The Failing Wine

Mary, Seat of Wisdom

By Father M. Oliver, O.C.S.O.—The author of *Pair as the Moon* now examines Mary's title, Seat of Wisdom. In vigorous, warm prose, he probes its meaning and traces the path of knowledge and love which marked the mothering of God. \$3.25

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The Primacy of Peter

By Msgr. Charles Journet, trans. by John Chapin—Brilliant analysis of the apostolic succession and a reply to Protestant theologian Oscar Cullmann's *Peter, Disciple, Apostle, Martyr*. \$3.00

Church and State Through the Centuries

Compiled by S. Z. Ehler and J. B. Morrall—Original documents covering the subject of Church and State from the time of Trajan to 1949. The compilation brings out extraordinarily well the continuity of the Church's policy in every age. \$6.75

For the adventurous:

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AND RED**

by Marie Fischer

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Our Lady for Children:

MARY, MY MOTHER

by Sister Mary Jean Dorcy, O.P.

A lovely book, designed to help small children to know Our Lady better and so love her more. The illustrations in this, and the book following, are the author's own wonderful silhouettes. \$1.75



from *Our Lady's Feasts*

**OUR LADY'S
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by Sister Mary Jean Dorcy, O.P.

The story behind each of the main feasts of Our Lady, beautifully told for older boys and girls. Illus. \$2.00

For reading aloud:

**ANIMALS UNDER
THE RAINBOW**

by Msgr. Aloysius Roche

Stories of saints who loved animals and animals who loved saints. With 20 superb wood engravings by Agnes Miller Parker. Ages 8-12. \$2.75

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NEW YORK 3**

The Tall Book of Christmas, by Dorothy Hall Smith (Harper. \$1), is delightful in appearance and reverent in tone; *Grimm's Fairy Tales* (Oxford. \$3.50), illustrated by Madelaine Gekiere and Helen Sewell, combines modern art-style with archaic lan-

guage; *The Selfish Giant*, by Oscar Wilde, illustrated by Mary Fidelis Todd (Kenedy. \$2), tells the familiar old story of the giant who built a high wall around his garden to keep the children out. It was a wonderful Child who taught him love.

Books for the youngsters of middle age

For the maturing reader of from 9 to 12, there are again this year, as every year, many good stories concerned mainly with animal friends. Rather unusual is *The First Book of Prehistoric Animals*. The text by Alice Dickinson and the illustrations by Helene Carter make up a book that is notable for sound information (Watts. \$1.75).

ANIMALS AS HEROES

Dogs are upstage in *Sea Dog*, by Edmund Gilligan (Knopf. \$2.50), a story of the courage of the dogs of the fishermen of Gloucester; more amusingly in *Hound Dog Moses and the Promised Land*, by Walter D. Edmonds (Dodd, Mead. \$2.50), which tells, in a spirit of good fun, how some reporters in heaven enable Moses to get inside, where he chases heavenly rabbits; and in *Henry and Ribsy*, by Beverly Cleary (Morrow. \$2.50), an adventuresome account of how the dog helps Henry catch a 291-pound salmon.

Three books with bird-characters will catch the advancing reader's fancy. *The Silver Curlew*, by poet Eleanor Farjeon (Viking. \$2.75), is an amusing enlargement on the old English folk tale, *Tom Tit Tom*. *My Brother Bird*, by Evelyn Ames (Dodd, Mead. \$2.75), is an unusual story of love for animals and of good family life, picturing how a New York family raises a baby pigeon. In *Bubo, the Great Horned Owl* (Dutton. \$3), by John and Jean George, the budding naturalist will find authentic information about many kinds of birds, though the owl is the main "character" whose life is dramatically pictured against the background of the changing seasons.

Robert Lawson is back with his finely illustrated stories of animal life in *The Tough Winter* (Viking. \$3). Georgie and the rest of the Rabbit Hill creatures have a hard time when the family leaves the farm in charge of a mean caretaker. They survive with salty realism, but it is a long time till spring and good times again. An amusing development of the old rhyme, "Pussy cat, pussy cat, where have you been?" is given in *To See the Queen*, by Katherine Gibson (Longmans, Green. \$2.50). When

Sparrow's cat chased a mouse out from under the chair of the young Queen during an outdoor fête, the Queen's dignity was hurt and she ran away to be a milkmaid. When chance brought her to Sparrow's home, the adventures began. The Queen was Isabella of Valois.

A good horse story is *Show Pony*, by Nancy Caffrey (Dutton. \$2.50), which narrates how twins buy a half-starved, half-broken filly and, in the course of training her, learn that they themselves have much to learn.



From *The Foreigner*

YOUNG HEROES FROM ABROAD

Stories that center in foreign lands continue their good work of arousing in the young reader a sense of fellowship with other peoples.

In *Rainbow round the World* (Bobbs-Merrill. \$2.50), Elizabeth Yates tells the stirring tale of the wonderful work being done by the United Nations Children's Fund. The young internationalist will be thrilled at the sight of hunger and disease being lessened and the chances for a good life being fostered by a work that is certainly Christian in spirit.

Based on the facts of an actual escape from behind the Iron Curtain, Marie McSwigan's *All Aboard for Freedom!* (Dutton. \$3) relates how four orphans, with the help of two dependable railroad crewmen, manage to flee from Czechoslovakia to the U. S. Zone in Germany. (Part of the royalties, says the jacket, will go to the American Fund for Czech Relief).

Holland, China and Nova Scotia are the next scenes visited. In *The Wheel on the School* (Harper. \$2.75), Meindert de Jong displays sensitive characterization and a novel plot in describing how, when everybody in the little

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TO SEE THE QUEEN

By **KATHARINE GIBSON**. Illustrated by Clotilde Embree Funk. There is enchanting folktale fun in the story of a little French princess who comes to London to be the Queen. Ages 8-12. \$2.50

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By **ALICE GEER KELSEY**. Illustrated by Kurt Werth. Persian tales that "will be enjoyed by any child who loves a good joke . . . fun to read and fun to tell."—*N. Y. Times Book Review*. Ages 8-12. \$2.50

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By **NETA LOHNES FRAZIER**. Illustrated by Henrietta Jones Moon. Little Rhody feels just ordinary compared to her wonderful family, until father proves she is special, after all. Ages 8-11. \$2.75

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By **VAL GENDRON**. Decorations by Rus Anderson. Adventure in the old West, when Indians hunted the buffalo. "One of the finest books of the year . . . unforgettable."—*Library Journal*. Ages 12-16. \$3.00

THE FOREIGNER

By **GLADYS MALVERN**. Illustrated by Corinne Malvern. The timeless story of Ruth and Naomi retold. "Girls will find Miss Malvern's recreation a satisfying one."—*N. Y. Times Book Review*. Ages 12-16. \$2.75

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By **KEORA KONO** and **DOROTHY MULGRAVE**. Illustrated by Isami Kashiwagi. "The tropical background and folk customs show intimate knowledge . . . both authors are excellent story-tellers."—*The Argonaut*. Ages 8-12. \$2.50

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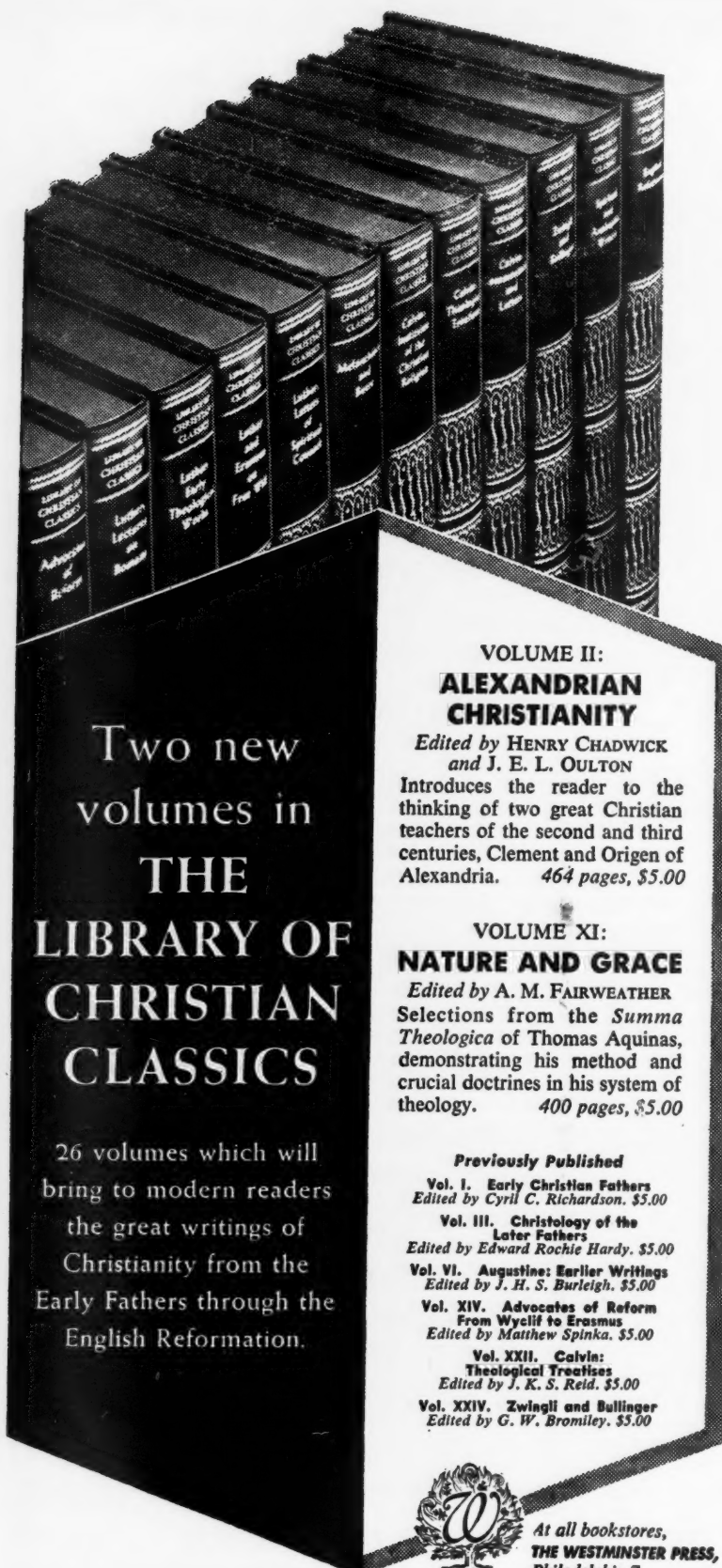
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By **JOSEPH E. CHIPPERFIELD**. Illustrated by Larry Toschick. "The life of a golden eagle from fledging . . . to full maturity . . . stirring and romantic."—*N. Y. Times Book Review*. Ages 12-16. \$3.00

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Dutch village begins to wonder why the storks no longer nest there, a search for a wheel to be placed on the schoolhouse roof answers the question and solves the problem. *China Boat Boy*, by Malcolm Reiss (Lippincott. \$2.50), carries us along with the adventures of a young boy when his father is taken away to serve in the army and the youngster is left with heavy responsibilities. Sincerity in writing and characterization mark *Mystery of the Piper's Ghost* (Winston. \$2.50), in which Zillah K. MacDonald makes us share the adventures of a young Nova Scotia boy, who displayed courage of a high order when he led the children to safety the disastrous day the mine entrance was destroyed.

Finally, for foreign scenes, we have *Once the Mullah*, by Alice Geer Kelsey (Longmans, Green. \$2.50), a collection of Persian folk tales concerning the wily fellow who can always depend on his wits to get him out of tight spots.

TALES CENTERED AT HOME

Modern American tales make up the following batch of good books. *Daybreak at Sampey Place* (Abingdon. \$1.50) is Frances F. Wright's telling of the consternation that strikes the family, and particularly young Judy, when Father is determined to sell the old farmhouse and move to town. Father finally comes to his senses in this finale to a series of stories about Sampey Place. *Ginnie and the New Girl*, by Catherine Woolley (Morrow. \$2.50), shows nice understanding in its account of unselfishness, as Ginnie learns to share her friend with a boastful new girl and discovers that it was loneliness that made the new girl so hard to get along with. Carolyn Haywood continues her entertaining stories about Betsy and her doings in *Betsy and the Circus* (Morrow. \$2.95). When the circus comes to town, one of the circus twins unconsciously causes a rift in the friendship between Betsy and Ellen, but all turns out well, in a story full of the color of the Big Top.

The following stories will appeal more—though not by any means exclusively—to boys.

More Fun with Herbert, by Hazel Wilson (Knopf. \$2.50), carries on the ingenious and deadpan escapades of a smalltown boy blessed with even-tempered parents. Rod's problems in *Rod's Dog*, by Jean Bailey (Abingdon. \$2.50), are a little more serious. City-bred, the boy irks the small-town young people and manages to make his relatives feel that he is not to be trusted with the dog he wants. Fate

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AT HOME

tales make up of good books. *Place* (Abing- es F. Wright's tion that strikes ticularly young e determined to e and move to e comes to his to a series of y *Place*. Ginnie Catherine Wool- shows nice un- count of unsel- rns to share her l new girl and loneliness that ard to get along d continues her bout Betsy and and the *Circus* Then the circus the circus twins a rift in the Betsy and Ellen, l, in a story full g Top. ries will appeal any means ex-

erbert, by Hazel), carries on the n escapades of a sed with even- od's problems in Bailey (Abing- tle more serious. s the small-town anages to make he is not to be he wants. Fate

intervenes by thrusting an injured dog into his very arms.

The story of a boy's developing sense of responsibility is fairly well told in *The Adventures of Blair Whitney*, by Jeanne Massey (Holt. \$2.75). He had grown up in the Philippines and found it hard to adjust to the normal life of an American small town. He does the trick, however, in a story that is somewhat childish in approach.

BACKWARD IN TIME

Stories that go back a bit in time are *Somebody Special*, by Neta Lohnes Frazier (Longmans, Green. \$2.75); *Jennifer Dances*, by Eunice Y. Smith (Bobbs-Merrill. \$2.75); and *Rebel Mail Runner*, by Manly Wade Wellman (Holiday House. \$2.75). The first, a nice family story set in Michigan in 1876, recounts how the young girl, thinking she had no talent, wrote a composition saying how much she wished she had. When it was sent, without her knowing it, to a magazine which published it, she discovered that she had had talent all along. The second, full of atmosphere and warmth, carries Jennifer to Chicago for a year, to the ballet school. But she returns with no repining to the farm-home, after having fixed up her Aunt Loby's blighted romance. The

third is fast-moving and convincing, as it tells of a boy who joins a man carrying messages from home to the men in the Confederate Army.

Three biographies are notable. The first, *Mark Twain: His Life*, by Catherine Peare (Holt. \$2), does not gloss over Twain's sadness and misfortunes in a story that uses sources well. The second, by Margaret and John Kiernan (Random. \$1.50), is the life of John James Audubon (it is one of the "Landmark" books). It tells of the amazing perseverance of the man, in spite of poverty and human opposition, until he was acclaimed at home and abroad as artist and ornithologist.

The third is the story of Frank Woolworth, who started out with twenty-five dollars to realize his dream of having a store of his own. The result was one of the most fabulous success-stories in the history of American enterprise. Nina Brown Baker tells the story in *Nickels and Dimes*. (Harcourt, Brace. \$2.50).

A fascinating book of space-fantasy is *The Wonderful Flight to the Mushroom Planet*, by Eleanor Cameron (Little, Brown. \$2.75). Two boys are sent off in their space-ship to solve the problem of survival that plagues Basidium-X. The hen brought along as mascot gives the clue to the puzzle.

Books for boys in the older age-brackets

Boys around 12-15 will find a good store of historical tales offered for their pleasure and instruction. The one that goes back earliest in time is *Sing, Morning Star*, by Elizabeth B. Meigs (Dutton. \$2.50). It concerns young King Baldwin of Jerusalem and tells how, when he makes the awful discovery that he is a leper, Cathy, whom he was to have married, and her brother Geoffrey stand by him. Geoffrey becomes a nursing brother, and the tale ends with Baldwin's

death. It sounds lugubrious, but the beautiful telling of the story saves it from mawkishness.

INDIANS, YOUNG AMERICA

Coming into more modern times, we have a good number of Indian stories. The theme of kidnaping by Indians and determination to return to white civilization is well-handled in Harriet Weed Hubbell's *Cannons over Niagara* (Westminster. \$2.75). Set in the period of the War of 1812,

Two to Help Laughter

Under my Hat

By Joseph A. Breig. Here are stories and sketches and comments about the joy of Christmas and of children; on the satisfaction that comes of genuine tolerance and love; of the dreams and contentment of a preacher, a musician, an entire family; the tale of a donkey that made the flight into Egypt and the reflections of a tail-bearing philosopher; the fondness for a favorite hat, and for a favorite saint. *Best Sellers* says: "A book for all who can laugh and love and weep . . . who have forgotten, or have never known, just how wonderful . . . life can be." \$2.50

Never Alone

By Joan Roberts. When she attained the lead role in the original production of *Oklahoma*, she could look back with restful delight at the path to theatrical success: supper clubs and starlit roofs, radio and recording studios, musicals in St. Louis and Los Angeles and Dallas and Boston—and at what made it all possible: her delightful family, which cheered her at amateur contests, taught her to win a victory at a *jeu*, rescued her from broken fences and from gangsters, and, most of all, helped to mold a character sustained by firm integrity and deeply religious faith. A charming autobiography, "memorable and enjoyable."—*The Sign* \$3.00

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it is well-written and fast moving. *Witch Doctor's Son*, by Evelyn Sibley Lampman (Doubleday. \$2.75), narrates the troubles a young Indian has in growing up in a white man's environment. It takes a sympathetic padre who comes to the reservation to help him by showing him the error of his feelings of guilt over broken taboos.

The second Seminole War of 1836 is the scene of Dee Dunsing's *War Chant* (Longmans, Green. \$2.50). It tells, in a tale packed with action, of the adventures of a boy who becomes an Army messenger of the U. S. forces in Florida. There is good feeling for the injustices the Indians suffered. The Seminole chief Osceola features in two books, *Flamingo Prince*, by Rubylea Hall (Duell, Sloan & Pierce. \$3.50) and *War Chief of the Seminoles*, by May McNeer (Random—a "Landmark" book. \$1.50). The first, with a great deal about Indian customs, mysticism, etc., is rather heavy; the second, short and vivid, was written by the great-granddaughter of the doctor who attended Osceola on his deathbed.

A book from another series, "Strength of the Union," is set in the period when Maine was entering the Union. Elizabeth Ogilvie tells the story in *Whistle for a Wind* (Scribner. \$3), in terms of a young boy whose wish is to go to sea. But home responsibilities tie him down—his father had been captured by the Barbary pirates—and troubles arise with the wreckers. It is a fast-moving tale full of talk about the advantages of statehood. In the 1840's, Pat Boyle came with his mother from Galway to Salem. He desired to be a doctor, but had to work at what came to hand—and engage in no little fighting, too. This is an outstanding story of a boy and his ambition. It is titled *Pat's New Worlds* (Longmans, Green. \$3) and is by Loring MacKaye.

In *Flight of the Peacock* (Washburn. \$2.75), Patrick O'Connor tells an exciting tale of a boy shanghaied, shipwrecked, embroiled with wreckers, only to return home, richer in both money and maturity, than when he left. The period is 1847. Some twenty-five years later, in 1873, young Johnny Doane goes on a last buffalo hunt with a veteran guide. Val Gendron tells the tale in *Powder and Hides* (Longmans, Green. \$3), a story well-conceived in its sympathy for the plight of the Indians in face of the diminishing buffalo herds. About a hundred years ago in Galway, Pat Hernon found a strange, abandoned ship and tangled with foreign sailors who carried him off to France. He returned

in time to help repel strangers and to discover the secret of the old ship. Eilis Dillon's telling of it all in *The San Sebastian* (Funk & Wagnalls. \$2.75) is full of action.

CONTEMPORARY SETTINGS

Stories with modern setting come next. One of the best is *The Columbus Cannon*, by Herbert Best (Viking. \$2.50). The young hero, on enforced vacation in Jamaica, tries to ease his father's financial troubles by doing something about a plantation. He runs into difficulties, but with the help of two friends and the discovery of the secret of the old cannon, all comes off well in a story remarkable for sparkling dialog.

Two good ranch stories are *Challenge of the Coulee*, by Janette S. Graham (Longmans, Green. \$2.75), and *Struggle at Saddle Bow*, by Barlow Meyers (Westminster. \$2.75). In the first, the young man, forced to re-

main on the ranch though he yearns to be a Navy engineer, helps solve a rustling problem that has been puzzling the FBI. The second deals with the work faced by two brothers in getting enough water for their ranch. Adventure, and even death, build up to a fine climax in an excellent story.

Three young detectives take the lead in *Operation Getaway* (Day. \$2.75), Ronald Seth's tale of a British secret agent parachuted behind the Iron Curtain to rescue a boy in danger of becoming an international pawn. In *Three Stuffed Owls* (Viking. \$2.50), Keith Robertson recounts the adventures of two youthful operators of a detective agency who solve the puzzle of smuggled foreign jewels. At *Swords' Point* (Harcourt, Brace. \$3), is André Norton's narrative of an American boy who goes to Holland resolved to clear up the secret of his brother's murder in a case of international intrigue.

Books for girls in the older age brackets

Stories for girls about 12-16 inevitably gravitate toward either romance or a career, or both. It is good to find a number of books that talk sensibly about the dreams and ambitions of the young ladies.

A good sense of Catholic atmosphere and ideals permeates *The April Time* (Bruce. \$2.95), in which Celine Meller, picturing a young girl's last year in high school, depicts her growing awareness of the importance of family relationships, of the values in love, and her generally maturing attitude toward the future. A very sympathetic biography of Mary, Queen of

Scots, is presented by Marian King in *Young Mary Stuart* (Lippincott. \$2.50). It concentrates on Mary's youthful days in France and shows her as winning the affection of everyone who knew her.

REFUGEES, OTHER COUNTRIES

Two books that touch on the refugee problem are well worth while. The first, *Singing among Strangers*, by Mabel L. Hunt (Lippincott. \$3), begins in Latvia, but shifts to the refugee camps in Germany. Courage, buoyed up by a love of music, is the dominant theme in the hauntingly realistic tale of a family which finally finds happiness in the New World. The second book is *Rowan Farm*, by Margot Benary-Isbert (Harcourt, Brace. \$2.50). The refugee Lechow family, and particularly young Margret, are happy on the South German farm of kindly Mrs. Almut, but Margret has her problems: growing up, discovering love and the larger problems to be faced in a polyglot area. It is a mature and thoughtful story.

A captivating story of a character-growth is told by Marjorie Vetter in *Cargo for Jennifer* (Longmans, Green. \$3). When young Jennifer has to spend a year with her Cuban relatives, it takes some time and some disappointments to make her realize that she must curb her excessive Americanism if she is ever to come to understand her father's people. The story is not a mere tract, but a provocative mixture of good times, romance and social and political asides on Cuba.

Ten of the Best

- ANIMALS EVERYWHERE, by Ingrid and Edgar d'Aulaire, p. 209
- BOOK OF THE NURSERY AND MOTHER GOOSE RHYMES, by Marguerite de Angeli, p. 212
- IMPUNITY JANE, by Rumer Godden, p. 213
- THE WONDERFUL FLIGHT TO THE MUSHROOM PLANET, by Eleanor Cameron, p. 217
- THE WHEEL ON THE SCHOOL, by Meindert DeJong, p. 214
- ANANSI THE SPIDER MAN, by Philip Sherlock, p. 213
- POWDER AND HIDES, by Val Gendron, p. 218
- A PENNY'S WORTH OF CHARACTER, by Jesse Stuart, p. 213
- THE APRIL TIME, by Celine Meller, p. 218
- THE FOREIGNER, by Gladys Malvern, p. 209

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MORE ROMANTIC TALES

Romance is a little more to the fore in the books that follow. *Green Threshold*, by Mary W. Thompson (Longmans, Green, \$2.50), is an absorbing and true-to-life story of the love of a young girl for her invalid brother. She begins to realize that her love is too possessive, but finally discovers an interest that will keep him from depression.

Two favorite authors are with the young ladies again. Betty Cavanna, in *6 on Easy Street* (Westminster, \$2.50), tells of a young girl's adventures as she helps her family run a newly inherited Nantucket inn. She resents being separated from her "steady," but comes to realize that the experience at the inn will be all to the good. Mary Stolz follows Dody Jenks from her middle-class family into "upper crust" society in *Pray Love, Remember* (Harper, \$2.75). The disillusionment she experiences enables her to make a sensible decision about her future.

A young wife's struggle to adapt herself to pioneer living in Alaska is well-portrayed in *Love Is Forever*, by Margaret Bell (Morrow, \$2). Despite her Victorian-type background, she comes to realize that she must follow

the example of her husband in adapting to life in the wilderness. There is fine excitement in this tale of Alaskan life at the turn of the century. The choice between marriage and career is well-handled in *Uncertain Glory*, by Frances C. Krautter (Dodd, Mead, \$2.50). Determined to be a great singer, yet now in love, the young woman finds that the decision forced on her when she lost her voice was the right one.

A fine realistic approach to the problems of human relationships is shown in *Four-Party Line*, by Dorothy Gilman Butters (Macrae Smith, \$2.50). Four telephone operators, coming from different backgrounds, develop a common bond of understanding because of the physical setup of the switchboard room. This requires each girl to re-evaluate her own standards. The romance is deft and the characterization good. A slim story of great courage, based on fact, is narrated by Mari Sandoz in *Winter Thunder* (Westminster, \$1.50). It highlights the pluck and determination of a young schoolteacher in saving her seven pupils after they had been forced to abandon their school bus and got lost in a Midwestern blizzard. The book is based on the experience of the author's niece in 1949.

For boys and girls in the older age-brackets

Adventure and mystery lead off this section of books appealing to readers of from 12 to 16. By this time, the youthful booklovers will be searching for "young adult" books, and "juveniles" may seem a little childish to them. The following books may fill the breach.

MYSTERY AND ADVENTURE

In *The Mystery of the Blue Admiral* (Coward-McCann, \$2.50), Dorothy Clewes spins an intriguing tale of how the children of a police inspector of a town near London band together with friends to help their father solve the theft of an apparently valueless painting.

Banner in the Sky, by James Ramsey Ullman (Lippincott, \$2.75), presents a puzzle. It is a thrilling tale of how a young Alpine boy finally achieves his ambition to scale the unconquered mountain that towers over the village. To do this, he has to flout his mother's orders, neglect church and school. But Rudi is not unaware of spiritual values, as is shown by the struggle he wages with the help of old Teo, the ex-guide. The book is written by one who knows mountains and mountaineering.

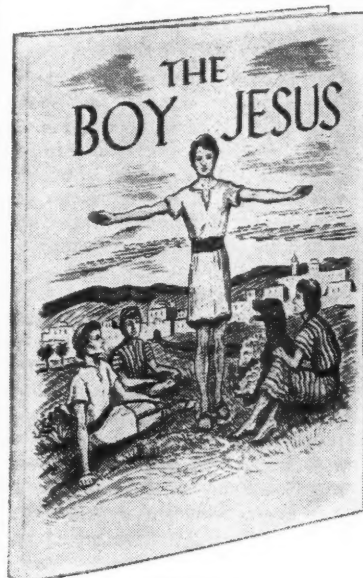
Two stories of earlier days are to the fore. In *Tenoch* (Nelson, \$2.50), Leigh Merrell captures well the atmosphere of New Spain in 1542 while relating how a young Indian boy, for the offense of throwing a rock at the Spanish Viceroy, is sentenced to a trip to the California coast. He is not only treated well by his jailers, but meets his long-lost father, so that he comes to bless the day he insulted Spanish majesty.

In a realistic tale of the Civil War, *Jeb Stuart and His Men* (Aladdin, \$1.75), Manly W. Wellman makes a young boy's excuse to run off and join the Confederate forces the motivation for a good tale that stresses the futility of war and the heroism of some of the men who fight. This is one of the "Heritage of America" series.

Others in the same uneven series that can be singled out—though they may appeal to a slightly younger age-group—are: *The Bells of Carmel*, by Edith H. Blackburn, the story of a youth befriended by Fray Junipero Serra; *The Greatest Adventure: A Story of Jack London*, by Frederick A. Lane; *A Flag for Lafitte*, by the same author; and *Men of Flight*, by Charles S. Verrall, a discussion of the relative

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merits of the Wright brothers and Glenn Curtiss.

Devotees of Walter Farley and the adventures of his by now famous Black Stallion will welcome the appearance of *The Black Stallion's Sulky Colt* (Random. \$2).

BIOGRAPHY AND FANTASY

A fascinating life-story, made so particularly by the use of photographs and sketches of the famous artist's notebooks, is *Leonardo da Vinci*, by Elma Erlich Levinger (Messner. \$3). It will appeal to any young reader interested in the arts and sciences and in the colorful Renaissance period.

C. S. Lewis continues his wonderful Narnia stories in *The Horse and His Boy* (Macmillan. \$2.75). This one has the magic land discovered by some refugee children from a nearby country. The fantasy and allegory may not be as rich as in the earlier books in the series, but the hand of the master storyteller is still evident. *The Giant*, by William Pene du Bois (Viking. \$2.75), is one of those fairy tales that appeal to young and old alike. It is especially fascinating and convincing in its descriptions of the mechanical devices that had to be made to the giant's measure.

Three good books have been added to "The Young Traveler" series (Dutton. \$3 each). They are: *The Young Traveler in Scotland*, by Ian Finlay;

The librarians, expert in children's work, who collaborated in the preparation of this survey, are: Mrs. Eugenia Garson, Mrs. Aileen Murphy, Mrs. Josephine Adamo Kennedy, Miss Mary Barrett, Miss Naomi Noyes and Miss Katherine Driscoll, all of the New York Public Library, and the Misses Ethna and Kathleen Sheehan of the Queens Public Library.

... in *Australia*, by Kathleen Monypenny; ... in *New Zealand*, by Hilda M. Harrop.

And so, we have surveyed again the serried ranks of books offered to the young people this fall publishing season. Probably 1,500 titles will flood the market between now and Christmas; the 150-odd books here selected are a good skimming-off of the cream of the crop. The selection would not have been possible without the generous work of the specialists in children's librarianship, whose names will be found on this page. Our—and, we hope, your—thanks to them.

H. C. G.

THE WORD

And then the sign of the Son of Man will be seen in heaven; then it is that all the tribes of the land will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming upon the clouds of heaven, with great power and glory (Matt. 24:30; Gospel for 24th Sunday after Pentecost).

Holy Mother Church, just as she possesses a language of her own, a music of her own and even an intellectual philosophy of her own, possesses also a calendar that is uniquely hers. About one month before the conclusion of the secular year, the Church's liturgical year comes to a close with the week of the 24th and last Sunday after the strictly central feast of Pentecost. It is significant that the Sunday Gospel which marks the end of the year is our Saviour's prophecy which foretells the end of the world.

Perhaps the leading impression made by this ominous, somber Gospel is one of mystification, and such

an impression is by no means unwarranted. The Gospel is a prophecy, and a prophecy is neither a timetable nor a meticulous set of directions.

Prophetic utterance commonly announces with force and clarity some future event of magnitude, but, for the rest, and especially in its details, the expressed vision is marked by considerable obscurity. In the present instance our Saviour's grim words make it abundantly clear that the history of humanity on this earth will have a term, an end. Beyond this pointed fact, which is one aspect of the single truth that Christ wishes at the moment to communicate, almost everything else remains veiled, obscure, mysterious.

How will the world end? We do not know. The apocalyptic imagery which our Saviour employs—the darkening of the sun and moon, the hurtling crash of stars, the convulsion of heaven and earth—these gigantic portents may actually represent nothing more than familiar, traditional Old Testament metaphors which were frequently used to describe any major social change like the fall of a kingdom or the collapse of a great dynasty.

It is true, of course, that Christian thought, particularly of the popular sort, has generally assumed that the end of the world will be violent, cataclysmic. Still, St. Paul speaks only of a trumpet-call and an angelic shout. The naturally interesting question whether this world will end in cosmic fire or through the unkind offices of an outside cobalt bomb might just possibly prove to be a purely academic problem.

When will the world end? Again, we simply do not know. The answer to this query is one of almighty God's top secrets. We even have our Lord's word for it that the angels themselves, privileged and knowing as they are, do not share this extremely vital item of divine knowledge.

It may be freely admitted that the earliest Christians, not excluding highly advanced and articulate ones like St. John and St. Paul, appear to have felt that the denouement of all human history would not long be deferred. With the passage of centuries such expectation has naturally faded. We continue to suppose that the mortal chronicle of mankind will indeed terminate abruptly; there is no reason at all to expect this ultimate event to occur soon. As the learned St. Robert Bellarmine drily remarks somewhere: "Compared to eternity, any length of time is short."

Actually, it is not the world's end that is the heart and center of our



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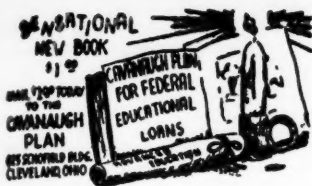
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rious prophecy. The essential fact is
what the theologians call the *Parousia*,
the final coming of Christ as absolute
and universal Judge. About this crit-
ical future event there is no obscurity
whatever, and, to speak most strictly,
obscurity about anything else doesn't
really much matter.

VINCENT P. MCCORRY, S.J.

THEATRE

SING ME NO LULLABY. This re-
viewer, always partial to social drama,
regrets that he cannot pin a blue rib-
bon on Robert Ardrey's play recently
installed at the Phoenix by T. Ed-
ward Hambleton and Norris Hough-
ton. It is Mr. Ardrey's thesis that Mc-
Carthyism is so rampant in the nation
that sensitive characters may be driven
to spiritual suicide. His guinea pig,
however, bites the hand that created
it. Mike Hertzog, the character sup-
posed to prefer Soviet Russia to Mc-
Carthyism, appears to be too sane and
sensible for any such foolishness.

Hertzog was one of the scientists
employed at Manhattan Project when
the heat was on to make an atom
bomb before the Nazis could discover
the formula. Years afterward, it was
revealed that he had been a fellow
traveler, before his disillusionment by
the 1939 Stalin-Hitler pact. On dis-
covery of his youthful indiscretion, he
is barred from Government work and
hounded off every job he gets in
private employment, even such mus-
cular jobs as digging ditches. Since
nuclear scientists barred from classi-
fied material usually land topside up
in a well-paid job on the staff of a
university, or in a better-paid job in
the laboratory of a big corporation,
Mr. Ardrey seems to belabor his point
to the verge of absurdity.

One can agree that passing moral
judgments on mental errors doesn't
make sense, a proposition immanent in
the story, and that condemnation for
regretted faults is a pastime for the
feeble-minded. It is also, the reader
is probably thinking, contrary to the
Christian doctrine of forgiveness. One
narrowness of this type of mind lies,
it seems to me, in its reluctance to be-
lieve that repentance is ever sincere.
The parable of the Prodigal Son comes
to mind.

There is only scant evidence in the
play that the parable came to Mr.
Ardrey's mind. His indignation at
Mike Hertzog's persecution is the cold

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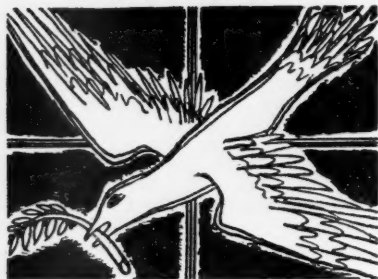
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anger of the intellectual, untouched
by moral fervor.

Perhaps this review has given too
much attention to the playwright's
ideas, at the expense of his compe-
tence as a craftsman. But that is one
of the hazards of commenting on so-
cial drama. As a play, *Lullaby* might
be called a comedy of middle-class
manners, with the action occurring in
a summer cottage instead of a town
house or country mansion. All the
characters are skilfully portrayed and
most of them seem to be likable
people.

And they are good people to meet
in the theatre, as represented by Larry
Gates, Richard Kiley, Jessie Royce
Landis, Beatrice Straight and other
performers distinguished in motion
pictures and TV, as well as on the
living stage. The play was intelligently
directed by Paul Stewart. Ben Ed-
wards designed the set.

THEOPHILUS LEWIS

FILMS

THE CREST OF THE WAVE is
based on a play, *Seagulls over Sor-
rento*, which was about top-secret ex-
perimentation with a torpedo explo-
sive only a little less destructive than
atomic energy. This took place on a
rocky and more Alcatraz- than Sor-
rento-like island off the coast of Brit-
ain. On the London stage the piece
was a great success and on Broad-
way an equally great flop. The movie,
made in England with MGM's frozen
pounds sterling and a largely British
cast and crew, has been rearranged in
the hope of capturing the American
audience while at the same time not
alienating the English one.

First item on the agenda was to
enlist the services of actor Gene Kelly,
not exactly a frozen asset but tem-
porarily residing in Europe under the
terms of the since retroactively re-
scinded tax-relief provision for Amer-
icans working abroad. The next was
to explain his presence in a British
naval project. Kelly becomes an Amer-
ican explosives expert who is sum-
moned to take over the experiments
when the chief British scientist is
blown up on a test run. He arrives on
"Sorrento" accompanied by his two
U. S. Navy enlisted-men assistants
(Jeff Richards, Fredd Wayne), thus
allowing the screen play to expatiate
on Anglo-American tensions and final
friendly cooperation on both commis-
sioned and non-commissioned levels.

The rest of the all-male cast (John

Justin, Bernard Lee, Sidney James,
etc.) are quaintly diversified British
types. Directors John and Roy Boul-
ting do a fairly creditable job with the
script's service humor and its tribute
to the intrepidity of naval personnel,
and maintain interest and suspense
in its semi-documentary portions.
They cannot disguise for the family
the fact that most of the material has
been used before and much more
effectively.

BENGAL BRIGADE. When Rock
Hudson, formerly noted chiefly as an
idol of the bobby-soxers, emerged in
The Magnificent Obsession as an actor
of more than average competence,
word went around Universal-Internat-
ional, his home studio, that hence-
forward more care was to be taken
with his casting. The production of
Bengal Brigade must have antedated
that order, for the film turns out to be
a typical grade-B Technicolor West-
ern. To be sure, the setting is India
(Universal's Westerns can be laid in
Old Bagdad, Old Algiers, Old Mexico,
the heart of darkest Africa, the Span-
ish Main or various other globe-
girdling locales without requiring any
material change in the formula). But
the plot—court-martialed officer saves
regiment from annihilation at hands
of rebellious natives—is familiar
enough to breed contempt.

Within its acknowledged limita-
tions, the film is lively enough and
harmless for the family. It is not very
constructive, however, concerning
such knotty problems as military
discipline and racial prejudice, which
it insists on raising and then leaves
suspended in midair.

Arlene Dahl is the beautiful Eng-
lish girl who loves the hero, and Ur-
sula Thiess is the beautiful Indian
girl, ditto but unrequitedly.

A BULLET IS WAITING involves
a variation on the current and un-
fortunate "crooked cop" cycle. A
sheriff (Steven McNally) who crash-
lands his plane—and his prisoner
(Rory Calhoun)—on an isolated sheep
ranch, is gradually revealed as a man
seeking unjust private vengeance
rather than upholding the law. The
picture also involves a preternaturally
sheltered young girl (Jean Simmons)
awakening to love, her father (Brian
Aherne), an intellectual in despairing
retreat from contemporary world
chaos, and a great deal of high-flown
but aimless conversation. Despite
some handsome Technicolor scenery,
an uncommonly good cast and spo-
radically effective direction by John
Farrow, the film is a pretentious bore
for adults.

(Columbia)
MOIRA WALSH

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CORRESPONDENCE

Retarded children

EDITOR: How thrilling to pick up AMERICA for Oct. 16 and read the fine editorial on retarded children.

Besides bringing to your wide reading audience the facts and statistics, as well as the special attention accorded this problem by the Holy Father, you encourage Catholics to use their organized influence to help find solutions for the many problems occasioned by mental retardation.

I hope your editorial will also stimulate the further development of a more skilled philosophical and spiritual approach on the part of those who counsel Catholic parents. Religious counseling appropriately given inspires and motivates parents so that they are enabled to utilize the social or psychiatric resources currently available for helping their retarded children and themselves.

Few stories about a parent and a retarded child have an ending. Adjustment and more adjustment is constantly demanded. If parents can be helped to discover the strong spiritual resources in our faith, it becomes possible to consider and reconsider the complexities of the task and to take with courage whatever steps may be required in the individual case.

Please continue your intelligent interest in this problem.

(MRS.) ROSEMARY FRENCH
San Francisco, Calif.

Empiricism in social sciences

EDITOR: The recent symposium on values in the social sciences (AM. 10/9) seemed to center around the key point as to whether there is such a thing as a purely empirical social science. The matter of values, of course, is dependent upon the answer to this question.

Perhaps a more fruitful approach would have been to point out that there is a body of thought in the natural sciences which asserts that pure empiricism does not exist even in their area of study. This point of view, while not in the ascendancy, is certainly making itself felt.

The pure empiricists in the social sciences, wholly preoccupied with their task of modeling their area of study after the (so-called) purely empirical natural sciences, may soon find themselves in the position of continuing to pursue radical empiricism after their prototype has forsaken it.

EDWARD J. BRENNAN
South Bend, Ind.

Catholics and foreign students

EDITOR: In your issue of Nov. 6, you suggest (p. 141) that Catholic organizations extend hospitality to Catholic Africans who attend secular universities in this country.

Your point has more general application. In the university town from which I write, Protestant church organizations take a keen interest in all foreign students, asking them to parish socials and arranging for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners at parishioners' homes.

It appears to me that Catholic groups are missing this opportunity to exercise Christian charity and apostolic zeal. Might not the program chairmen of Holy Name societies, rosary sodalities and the like give some thought to a project of this sort? It should be easy to obtain lists of foreign students from university authorities. And if resources are limited, at least, the Catholics could be made welcome.

STUDENT

Address withheld.

Bouquet

EDITOR: Congratulations on the poem "Hosanna to the Son of God," by Rev. John Duffy, C.S.S.R., in your Oct. 30 issue. I cannot remember seeing his work before. I hope more of his pieces appear in AMERICA. His view of nature seems to follow that of Fr. Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J., but the impact of his sacramental view of nature is stronger on first reading.

(REV.) JAMES W. KING, S.J.
Los Gatos, Calif.

Sorry, Sisters!

EDITOR: In your inspiring comment on the "Sisters in the history of nursing" (11/6, p. 144) mention was made of the admirable role played by Florence Nightingale and the group of Irish nursing sisters. No doubt the editor had Mother McAuley's Sisters of Mercy in mind when he wrote "Sisters of Mary."

Though Florence Nightingale did not have the happiness of sharing the credit of Crimea with the sisters who aided her, she nevertheless left it on record that she owed to the Catholic Church and to Catholics the inspiration of her work and the opportunity of receiving the necessary training.

(REV.) IRENAEUS HERSCHER, O.F.M.
St. Bonaventure, N. Y.

(We apologize for a typographical error which got by our proofreaders. Ed.)

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